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                 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 2
                 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
 3
 4
     ZACHARY GRIFFIN,
 5
            Plaintiff(s),
 6
                    Case 24-cv-21929-BLOOM/Elfenbein
     v.
 7
     MOTORSPORTS GAMES, INC.,
            Defendant(s).
 8
 9
10
11
                         DEPOSITION
12
                             OF
13
                       ZACHARY GRIFFIN
14
15
                   Wednesday, February 12, 2025
     DATE:
16
     TIME:
                   10:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
17
                  AXA Law Group PLLC
    LOCATION:
                   2121 Northwest 2nd Avenue
18
                   Suite 201
19
20
                   Miami, Florida 33127
21
     REPORTED BY: Nidelis Gonzalez, Notary Public
22
     JOB NO:
                  7169342
23
24
25
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Veritext Legal Solutions 800-726-7007 305-376-8800

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1	Page 6 EXHIBIT	1	Page 8 laws in the same manner as a deposition
2	(continued)	$\frac{1}{2}$	•
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	Defendant 48 11-2-23 E-mail 177	6	
	Defendant 49 NetSuite Expense Report 182	7	please identify yourself for the record,
1	Defendant 50 Initial Disclosures 184	8	beginning with the taking attorney.
9	Defendant 50 Initial Disclosures 104	9	MS. FEROT: Good morning. My name is
10		10	Alice Ferot, and I represent Motorsport Games,
11		11	Inc.
12		12	MR. AYALA: Eduardo Ayala for Zach
13		13	Griffin, the plaintiff.
14		14	
15		15	THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you. Hearing no objection I will swear in the witness.
l .		1	
16 17		16 17	
18		18	affirm the testimony you're about to give will
19		18	be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?
20		20	MR. GRIFFIN: I do.
1		1	
21 22		21 22	THEREUPON, ZACHARY GRIFFIN,
23			a Witness of lawful age, being first duly sworn in
24			accordance with the law, was examined and testified
25		25	as follows to the best of his ability:
25		23	as follows to the best of his ability.
1	Page 7	,	Page 9
1	PROCEEDING	$\frac{1}{2}$	THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you. Please
2	VIDEOGRAPHER: Good morning. The time is	2	•
3	10:20 a.m., and we are on the record on	3	DIRECT EXAMINATION
4	February 12, 2025. My name is Valentina Olano,		BY MS. FEROT:
5	and I am the videographer. I'm, going to hand	5	Q Good morning, Mr. Griffin.
6	it over to our court reporter.	6	\mathcal{E}
7	THE COURT REPORTER: Good morning. My	7	Q So I represent Motorsport Games, Inc.
8	name is Nidelis Gonzalez, and I'm the reporter		Could you please state your full name for the
9	assigned by Veritext to take the record of this	1	record?
10	proceeding. We are now on the record at 10:18	10	A Yes. Zachary Nicholas Griffin.
11	a.m. This is the deposition of Zachary	11	Q Okay. Now, have you been deposed before?
12	Griffin, taken in the matter of Zachary Griffin	12	
13	versus Motorsport Games, Incorporated, case	13	
14	number 24-cv-21929. It is February 12, 2025.		ground rules for you. But do you understand that
15	We are at 2121 Northwest 2nd Avenue, Suite 201, Miami, Florida 33127.		you are under oath?
1/	IVITATUL PIOPIGA 3317/	16	
16		17	
17	I am a notary authorized to take	17	Q Okay. And that means you have to tell the
17 18	I am a notary authorized to take acknowledgments and administer oaths in the	18	truth, right?
17 18 19	I am a notary authorized to take acknowledgments and administer oaths in the state of Florida. Additionally, absent an	18 19	truth, right? A Yes, of course.
17 18 19 20	I am a notary authorized to take acknowledgments and administer oaths in the state of Florida. Additionally, absent an objection on the record before the witness is	18 19 20	truth, right? A Yes, of course. Q And your answers have the same
17 18 19 20 21	I am a notary authorized to take acknowledgments and administer oaths in the state of Florida. Additionally, absent an objection on the record before the witness is sworn all parties and the witness understand	18 19 20 21	truth, right? A Yes, of course. Q And your answers have the same significance if they were asked in a courtroom.
17 18 19 20 21 22	I am a notary authorized to take acknowledgments and administer oaths in the state of Florida. Additionally, absent an objection on the record before the witness is sworn all parties and the witness understand and agree that any certified transcript	18 19 20 21 22	truth, right? A Yes, of course. Q And your answers have the same significance if they were asked in a courtroom. A Yes.
17 18 19 20 21 22 23	I am a notary authorized to take acknowledgments and administer oaths in the state of Florida. Additionally, absent an objection on the record before the witness is sworn all parties and the witness understand and agree that any certified transcript produced from the recordings of this proceeding	18 19 20 21 22 23	truth, right? A Yes, of course. Q And your answers have the same significance if they were asked in a courtroom. A Yes. Q So I'll ask if you don't understand a
17 18 19 20 21 22	I am a notary authorized to take acknowledgments and administer oaths in the state of Florida. Additionally, absent an objection on the record before the witness is sworn all parties and the witness understand and agree that any certified transcript	18 19 20 21 22 23 24	truth, right? A Yes, of course. Q And your answers have the same significance if they were asked in a courtroom. A Yes.

Page 10 Page 12 1 A Of course. 1 Q Is there any fact that is not true in this 2 Q If you need a break just let us know, 2 complaint? 3 we'll take a break, but I just ask that you answer 3 A In this complaint? 4 any pending question. 4 Q Yes. A Sure. 5 A Not to my knowledge. Q And also, everything is being transcribed 6 Q Okay. Is there any fact that is missing 7 by the court reporter, so we really have to all make 7 from the complaint? 8 an effort to not speak over each other. So if I ask 8 A Not to my knowledge. 9 a question, and you see where I'm going, and you 9 MR. AYALA: Objection to form. 10 want to answer, you have to pause, and make sure 10 BY MS. FEROT: 11 that I finish my question --Q All right, so now we're going to go to the 11 A Not a problem at all. 12 counts of the complaint. If you'll turn the page, 12 13 and you go to Page 6, do you see that in your 13 Q It would also help your counsel to object, 14 if he has any objection. Same thing, only use 14 complaint there is a count one, breach of contract 15 --15 verbal responses, because non-verbal responses 16 cannot be transcribed. 16 A Yes. 17 A Okay. 17 Q -- then on Page 7 breach of good faith and (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 1 is marked for 18 fair dealing. 18 19 identification.) 19 A Yes. 20 BY MS. FEROT: 20 Count three, promissory estoppel. And Q All right, so I'm going to be handing you 21 count four, breach, breach of fiduciary duty. Do 22 what we'll mark as Exhibit Number 1. Oops, sorry. 22 you see that? 23 No So, do you recognize this document? 23 A I do. A I do, yes. 24 24 Q All right, are you aware that except for 25 Q Notice of deposition. Are you prepared to 25 count three, the promissory estoppel count, all the Page 11 Page 13 1 answer my questions today? 1 counts have been dismissed? 2 A Yes. 2 A Yes, I am. 3 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 2 is marked for 3 Q Understand the courts found that you did identification.) 4 not have a claim for these counts. 5 BY MS. FEROT: 5 MR. AYALA: Objection to form. Q Okay. So I'm going to be handing you a 6 BY MS. FEROT: 7 copy of what we'll mark as Exhibit Number 2. Well, 7 Q All right, so now I go to the count that 8 remains, count three on Page 8. In that count is 8 actually I'm giving you --9 MS. FEROT: Can I -- can I just keep -- I 9 there any factual allegation that is not true? MR. AYALA: Objection to form. 10 know you --10 11 THE COURT REPORTER: Yeah, absolutely. 11 BY MS. FEROT: 12 MS. FEROT: Can you give me back the -- is 12 Q Is there any factual allegation that is 13 that fine, then I'll hand it over to you when 13 not true? We didn't hear your response. I'm done for --A I didn't respond. Of these --14 14 15 BY MS. FEROT: 15 Q Yes. Q Do you recognize this document? 16 A That is not true? 16 17 17 O Yes. 18 Q Is it the document that your counsel filed 18 A Again, not to my knowledge. 19 on your behalf? 19 Q Okay. Is there anything missing, any 20 20 factual allegation that is missing --A That appears to be. Q Okay. I'll give you a minute to go MR. AYALA: Objection to form. 21 21 22 through the pages. Is there any factual allegation 22 BY MS. FEROT: 23 that is not true in the complaint? 23 Q I'm sorry, I didn't hear your response. MR. AYALA: Objection to form. 24 A No, just to clarify --24

4 (Pages 10 - 13)

MR. AYALA: You -- you -- if you don't

25

25 BY MS. FEROT:

	Page 14	Page 16
1	understand you don't have to answer.	1 experience and background?
2	THE WITNESS: Okay. Just to clarify, if	2 A Yes.
3	there's an objection to form	3 Q Okay. So can you tell me a little bit
4	MR. AYALA: Yeah, you you you can	4 about your experience at Big Ant?
5	answer, unless I tell you not to answer.	5 A At Big Ant.
6	THE WITNESS: Okay.	6 Q Mm-hmm.
7	MR. AYALA: So I I - I'm going to put	7 A That was many years ago. I was a 3D
8	so I find her questions improper	8 artist, so I was responsible for producing art
9	THE WITNESS: Yes.	9 assets for racing games.
10	MR. AYALA: so I put an objection	10 Q Okay. So what was your position?
11	THE WITNESS: Yes.	11 A I was a Junior 2D/3D Artist from from
12	MR. AYALA: then we'll have to deal	12 there I think I did a long time ago, so.
13	with the judge later, but you	13 Q Why did you leave?
14	THE WITNESS: Okay.	14 A Where did I live?
15	MR. AYALA: If if if I tell	15 Q Yes.
16	you not to answer you don't answer. If I don't	16 A In Melbourne.
17	say anything you can answer.	17 Q Say that again.
18	THE WITNESS: Okay. If you objection to	18 A In Melbourne.
19	form I'm still to answer.	19 Q No, why did you leave that position?
20	MR. AYALA: Huh?	20 A Why did I leave? I was offered a better
21	THE WITNESS: If there's an objection to	21 position.
22	form I still answer the question.	22 Q Okay.
23	MR. AYALA: You still answer.	23 A At a, another company called Think Outside
24	THE WITNESS: Okay, sorry. That's	24 the Square.
25	MR. AYALA: It's all right.	Q Okay. Is it here on this profile?
	Page 15	Page 17
1	THE WITNESS: my misunderstanding.	1 A No, it's not, because it wasn't relevant
	BY MS. FEROT:	2 to my gaming experience.
3	Q No worries. Where do you currently live?	3 Q Okay. And what did you do there?
4	A In Australia.	4 A I ran a simulator, driving simulators. I
5	Q Where in Australia?	5 did exhibitions for different clients in the Motor
6	A In Melbourne.	6 Show Grand Prix, and various other motorsport
7	Q How do you spell that?	7 related events.
8	A M-E-L-B-O-U-R-N-E.	8 Q Got it. And how long did you stay there?
9	Q All right. I understand you're married.	9 A Approximately, I believe somewhere between
l .	Could you state your wife's name for the record?	10 a year and eighteen months. And there was various
11	A Yes. Francesca Holmes.	11 and sporadic work, apart from that, and at that time
12	Q Okay. How many children do you have?	12 as well I went to, I went to study as well at
13	A One.	13 University.
14	Q One. How old?	14 Q Okay. Where was it?
15	A Four, five weeks now.	15 A At RMIT.
16	Q Okay. Congratulations.	16 Q Okay. Tell me a little bit would you
17	A Yeah, thank you.	17 describe me your educational background?
1	(Thereupon, Defendant's Exhibit 3 is marked for	18 A Mm-hmm. Yeah, so I have an advanced
19	identification.)	19 diploma in game development from Victoria
	BY MS. FEROT:	20 University. I also have a degree in business as
21	Q I'm going to hand you a copy of what we'll	21 well from RMIT, majoring in entrepreneurship.
1	nark as Exhibit 3. So this is your LinkedIn	Q Okay. And I understand you're the
_	profile. Do you recognize this?	23 creator, the founder of Black Delta
24	A Yes, I do.	24 A Yes, correct.
25	Q Does this profile accurately reflect your	25 Q When did you create it?

5 (Pages 14 - 17)

1 A In -- I think we incorporated in 20, like

2 2014, early 2015, I think. I don't recall the exact

- 3 date, but somewhere around there.
- 4 Q Which -- which year?
- 5 A 2014 or 2015.
- 6 O '14.
- 7 A I'm not aware of the exact incorporation
- 8 day.
- 9 Q All right. What was your position there?
- 10 A I was the founder.
- 11 Q And what was the purpose of Black Delta?
- 12 A To -- first, to make racing games, so I
- 13 built a prototype of a racing game, and which I
- 14 commercialized, and it was to take that game to, to
- 15 market.
- 16 Q Okay. And that's where you created
- 17 KartKraft?
- 18 A That's correct.
- 19 Q Can you tell me a little bit more about
- 20 the game, how you developed it, the release?
- 21 A Yes. So it was a racing simulator game,
- 22 similar to Gran Turismo, which is a racing game for
- 23 Sony PlayStation, but it focused primarily on go-
- 24 karts, so profession go-karts that Formula One
- 25 drivers, for example, would use on their, their way
 - Page 19
- 1 to, to their career, or to become a Formula One 2 driver.
- 3 Q What are the revenues brought by
- 4 KartKraft?
- 5 A The revenues? That's a good question. I
- 6 don't recall exactly at the time, I know to date I
- 7 think it sold in excess of 300,000 units, I believe.
- 8 O Congratulations.
- 9 A Thank you.
- 10 Q Was Black Delta representable?
- 11 A No, it was not.
- 12 Q So when did you first get in touch with
- 13 Motorsport -- and before you answer I just want to
- 14 make a clarification, because we're going to speak
- 15 about several entities, so when I say Motorsport
- 16 that is just the group.
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q Motorsport US will be Motorsport Games,
- 19 Inc., Motorsport Australia will be Motorsport Games
- 20 Australia --
- 21 A Mm-hmm. Sure.
- Q -- is that fine?
- 23 A That's fine.
- 24 Q Okay. So when did you first get in touch
- 25 with them, with Motorsport?

- Page 18

 1 A I believe it was sometime in late 2020. I
 - 2 had a LinkedIn message from Steven Hood, who was the

Page 20

Page 21

- 3 then president of the company, and another gentleman
- 4 called Gustavo Roche, who was their business
- 5 development manager, I think, at the time.
- 6 Q Okay. And you started to negotiate the
- 7 sale of KartKraft to Motorsport, right?
- 8 A That's correct.
- 9 Q Okay.
- 10 A And to clarify, they reached out to me,
- 11 not the other way around.
- 12 Q They reached out to you?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q Okay. And that was Steven Hood.
- 15 A Steven Hood had reached out to me, and
- 16 then, I think at some earlier date, and then Eduardo
- 17 and, I'm sorry, not Eduardo, and then Gustavo and
- 18 Steven had reached out again sometime in 2020, I
- 19 believe.
- 20 Q Okay. And you sold KartKraft, or you sold
- 21 Black Delta, or both?
- 22 A KartKraft.
- 23 Q You sold KartKraft, okay.
- 24 A Mm-hmm.
- 25 Q And when did you first discuss working for
- 1 Motorsport?
 - 2 A Sometime during the, the negotiations. So
 - 3 the idea was that they would purchase KartKraft, and
 - 4 then the, myself and another employee would, would
 - 5 join Motorsport Games Australia Proprietary Limited.
 - 6 Q Okay. And what was the, the goal, why
 - 7 were they opening Motorsport Games Australia?
 - 8 A So it was purely, I believe, as a vehicle
 - 9 for KartKraft, and to build a studio in Australia
- 10 around myself leading that, that team, and at the
- 11 time to take KartKraft to console.
- 11 time to take Kartkrant to console
- 12 Q Okay. What was your start date; do you
- 13 recall?
- 14 A Yes. I think it was the 16th of March.
- 15 There or thereabouts, but I think that's correct.
- 16 Q Okay.
- 17 A In 2021.
- 18 Q And what was your last day?
- 19 A November 1st in 2023, I believe.
- 20 Q Had you ever been terminated before in
- 21 your career?
- 22 A No, my first time. And it was a, a
- 23 redundancy, rather than a termination, so I wasn't
- 24 fired for cause, or anything like that, it was the
- 25 whole studio was shut down.

6 (Pages 18 - 21)

Page 22 Page 24 1 Q Understood. So what do you do now? Q Okay. And here it states your start date, 2 A So I work as a development director for a 2 which you mentioned earlier, which is March 16, 3 subsidiary within Electronic Arts. 3 2021. Q What's the name of the subsidiary? 4 A Yes. 4 Q What was your compensation? 5 A Fusion. 5 6 Q And that's an Australian entity, right? A It was \$170,000.00 USD. I'm reading it A No, I don't believe so. I think it's part 7 from here as well, and there were three bonuses 8 of the EA umbrella. I don't know where the entity 8 guaranteed annually of \$70,000.00 USD as well. Q Okay. So on average per year you were 9 is incorporated. 10 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 4 is marked for 10 making \$170,000.00, plus \$70,000.00, so \$240,000.00 11 identification.) 11 annual. 12 12 BY MS. FEROT: A That's correct. Q Okay. All right, I'm going to be handing 13 Q Was it the highest compensation at 14 you a copy of what we will mark as Exhibit 4. Are 14 Motorsport Australia? 15 you familiar with this document? A Yes, it was. 15 A It appears to be my employment contract 16 Q Do you see the entire agreement clause on 17 with Motorsport Games Australia. 17 Page 12? Q Okay. Can you go on Page 15, at the end? 18 A Yes. 19 Do you recognize your signature? Q So this Paragraph 19.8 of the agreement 19 A Yes. 20 captioned Entire Agreement. This agreement contains 21 Q So you agreed to the terms of this 21 the entire agreement between the parties with 22 employment agreement, correct? 22 respect to the subject matter of this agreement, and 23 A Yes. 23 supersedes and prevails over any prior agreement, 24 covenant, or understanding, if any between the 24 Q And who else executed this contract? 25 It was myself and Amanda LeCheminant. I 25 parties. Page 23 Page 25 1 executed it on my behalf, as an employee, and in my 1 MR. AYALA: Objection to form, legal 2 capacity as director of the company. 2 conclusion. 3 Q Okay. And Ms. LeCheminant executed from MS. FEROT: I'm just reading what's on the 4 Motorsport Games Australia. 4 document. 5 5 A Yes. MR. AYALA: It wasn't a question? Q Who is Ms. LeCheminant? 6 MS. FEROT: No. 6 7 7 A So she was the general counsel for MR. AYALA: Sorry about that. When you 8 finish your question that will be my objection. 8 Motorsport Games at the time. MS. FEROT: No worries. No worries. Q Okay. And if you go back to the first 9 10 page of the document you see the parties to this 10 BY MS. FEROT: 11 agreement, right? 11 Q How do you understand this clause? 12 A Yes. 12 MR. AYALA: Objection to form, legal 13 Q Who is the employer? 13 conclusion. 14 A Yes. 14 THE WITNESS: So my understanding -- I'd 15 Q I -- I was asking who is the employer? 15 have to consult a, a lawyer again, but it says 16 A Who is -- Motorsport Games Australia 16 this document is to represent the agreement 17 Proprietary Limited. between myself and Motorsport Games Australia. 17 Q Okay. And who is the employee? 18 BY MS. FEROT: 18 19 A It would be myself. 19 Q Okay. That means everything is there, Q Okay. If you look at the schedule, which 20 right, everything is in the agreement, the entire 20 21 is on, I believe Page 16, what was your position 21 agreement between you and Motorsport Australia. 22 then? 22 MR. AYALA: Objection to form. 23 23 A So I was the director of studio. THE WITNESS: There was a, another Q Okay. And that was for which entity? 24 separate stock agreement, as well I believe for 24 25 A For Motorsport Games Australia. 25 total compensation. But other than that it

7 (Pages 22 - 25)

Page 26 1 appears that everything is here. 1 2 BY MS. FEROT: Q There was a stock agreement? 3 4 expenses. 4 Q Okay. So did you get stock from 5 5 6 Motorsport? 6 A I don't believe it was ever officially 7 those here? 8 actioned upon, because of the financial issues with 8 9 the company at the time, but that was the, the 9 10 intent. 10 Motorsport US? 11 Q Okay. So the right to stock was never 11 A No. 12 triggered? 12 13 A That's correct, I believe. 13 identification.) Q Okay. All right, now moving onto Page 3. 14 BY MS. FEROT: 15 Do you see on top of, on top of the page the clause 15 16 Travel and Expenses? 17 A Yes. 18 Q So this is clause number four, Travel and 18 e-mail? 19 Expenses 4.1 any work related travel must be 19 A Yes. 20 approved by the employer in writing prior to 20 21 bookings and other arrangements being made. And 21 A That's correct. 22 4.2, any necessarily incurred and approved 22 23 reasonable travel, accommodation, or other expense 24 reimbursement, will be made after you provided to 24 A It was at the time. 25 the employer satisfactory admittance of the expense 25 O Page 27 1 being incurred by you in the performance of your 1 A I'm sending this to Dimitri Kozko, Amanda 2 duties. Do you see that? 3 A Yes. 3 4 Q All right. Does it require that expenses 4 5 be approved to be reimbursed? 5 MR. AYALA: Objection, calls for a legal 6 7 opinion. 8 THE WITNESS: Yes. 8 9 this e-mail? 9 BY MS. FEROT: Q Okay. So while you worked with Motorsport 11 Australia you understood you had to have your 12 expenses approved, right? A Yes, for Motorsport Games Australia. Q Okay. Did you sign this EA contract with 14 15 Motorsport Games USA --15 A No. No, I did not sign a contract with 16 United States at this time? 17 Motorsport Games America, Inc. (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 5 is marked for 18 19 identification.) 19 Indianapolis. 20 BY MS. FEROT: 20 Q Okay. That's it for this exhibit. I'm 21 A I did, yes. 22 going to be handing you what we will mark as Exhibit

Page 28

- Q Right. Did you receive any compensation
- 2 that is not reflected in these paystubs? And I'm
- 3 talking about compensation, not reimbursement of
- A Compensation -- not to my knowledge.
- Q Did you receive any other paystubs than
- A No, from what I can see.
- Q Did you ever receive any paystubs from
- (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 6 is marked for
- Q All right, I'll move onto the next
- 16 exhibit. I'm going to be handing you what we will
- 17 mark as Exhibit Number 6. Do you recognize this
- Q This is from you, Zach Griffin.
 - Q Is that your professional e-mail address,
- 23 zach.griffin@motorsportgames.com?
 - All right. And to who are you sending it?

- 23 Number 5. I'll let you take a look. Do you
- 24 recognize this document?
- A They appear to be my paystubs.

Page 29

- 2 LeCheminant, and Dara Malavolta.
- Q Okay. Who was Dimitri Kozko?
- A The CEO of Motorsport Games.
- Q And -- okay. And Dara Malavolta?
- A Was the -- I don't recall her title, but
- 7 she, effectively she was responsible for HR.
- Q HR, okay. Why -- why were you sending
- A At the time there were travel restrictions
- 11 in place for Australian citizens to travel outside
- 12 of the country, was restricted during Covid, and I
- 13 received a rather urgent request from Dimitri Kozko
- 14 at the time to ask if I could travel to America.
- Q Okay. And why were you coming to the
- A At the time he suggested the reason was
- 18 there was a meeting with IndyCar, the executives at
- Q Okay. Did you travel a lot for work?
- Q And like you mentioned August -- so the e-
- 23 mail is dated August 2, 2021, was during Covid. So
- 24 you say in the e-mail: As discussed with Dimitri the
- 25 Australian Border Force requires anyone wishing to

8 (Pages 26 - 29)

305-376-8800

Page 30 Page 32 1 leave the country to have a valid exemption to 1 A It's -- have to read this. 2 travel. The permissible reasons to be granted an Q So just -- just to explain the, that part 3 exemption, travel for business is assessed on the 3 that are redacted is because they contain personal 4 basis of the trip benefits Australia, on the basis, 4 identifying information --5 sorry, that the trip benefits Australia A Sure. 6 economically, or otherwise can't be done over a Q -- and so it's redacted to preserve your 7 videoconference. 7 confidentiality. So the only part that I redacted 8 are your date of birth and your passport number, you A Yes. 9 That was the case? 9 have everything else. 10 A Yes, it was. 10 A Yes. And could you repeat the question Q So you were not supposed to travel unless 11 then, please? 12 you would meet that requirement that it benefits 12 Q Sure. So this is a letter for proof of 13 Australia economically, right? 13 employment, right, for your travel? A We weren't meant to travel unless we had a A I don't believe so. I believe it was, it 15 valid exemption to travel, and so it was up to the 15 was a request, one for that I was intended to travel 16 government to assess whether or not that was the 16 to America, and then to get to confirm my employee 17 case. 17 with Motorsport Games Australia. 18 Q Okay. And that could take up to four 18 Q Okay. And that was addressed to the 19 weeks to be approved, right? 19 Australian Border Force. A I'm reading it again, I don't recall now, 20 A That's correct. 21 but, right, according to the e-mail it says four 21 O And did -- was -- was this letter used? 22 weeks. 22 A I believe it was. I don't recall exactly 23 Q Okay. And it required some documentation. 23 if this was the one. It was a long time ago. 24 A Yes, that's correct. Q Okay. But something similar to that was 25 25 sent to the Australian Border Force? Q Did the Australian government require a Page 31 Page 33 1 isolation upon your return? 1 A Yes. 2 A They did, yes. 2 O And the information is truthful in this Q For how long? 3 3 letter, right? A It was fourteen days, I believe. A Yes. 4 5 Q So I assume it was not pleasant? 5 Q Okay. Because otherwise you would face A Being locked in a hotel room for, with 6 sanctions, right, with --7 myself for fourteen days, so it was -- I've had A I believe so. I'm not in the -- I'm not 8 better times. 8 in the business of lying. 9 O No contact? Q And the letter says that you are a A No contact other than phones, but there 10 full-time employee of and director of Motorsport 11 was no, yeah, open windows or anything. It was --11 Games Australia. Is that what you see? 12 Q No open windows? 12 A Yes. A No. 13 13 Q Okay. All right. We'll leave that aside Q Wow. So did that make traveling 14 for now. So when did you first discuss a possible 14 15 complicated for you? 15 relocation to Miami? A Could you define what you mean by A So it was around August, sitting in a car, 17 you know, with Dimitri Kozko, you know, on or about 17 complicated? 18 Q That restrained your traveling to some 18 August 2021. 19 extent. 19 Q 2021. And what was said exactly? A I'd only -- that was the first trip that I 20 A I'm sorry? 21 had taken for Motorsport Games US, and so, yeah, it Q What was said during that --21 22 was an additional hurdle. A He said -- we were sitting in a, a car, it Q Yeah. So to go back to the document, 23 was a Cadillac Escalade, and I hadn't seen one 24 there is an exhibit to this e-mail on Page 2. This 24 before so I said it's a cool car, I believe, and,

9 (Pages 30 - 33)

25 and he said if you, something to the effect of if

25 is a proof of employment, correct?

- 1 you come to America I'll get you one, or come and
- 2 work for me, I don't recall his exact language right
- Q Did he explain why you should come to 4
- 5 Miami?
- A Not at that, during the conversation. It
- 7 was -- there was various hints, I guess, before,
- 8 that he was, I may be able to come to, to Motorsport
- 9 Games, Inc., and, and be centralized in the same
- 10 location.
- Q Okay. Did you discuss the conditions of
- 12 your relocation at the time?
- A Not at that time. It was purely a, a
- 14 single comment. And I think later on that night he
- 15 suggested, you know, that I should be, ought to, to
- 16 move here.
- 17 Q So he promised you an Escalade if you were
- 18 coming to Miami.
- A It was a, an offhand, or I guess comment
- 20 to see whether or not I was going to, whether I was
- 21 interested, and he said if you get one, but I didn't
- 22 sign or agree to that, it was just a comment.
- Q Okay. Did you agree to move to Miami at 23
- 24 that time?
- 25 A Not on that day, no.

- 1 Q Okay. Were you -- was it difficult to
- 2 agree to move to Miami?
- A Could you define what difficult means?
- Q Did you have conflicting thoughts about
- 5 moving to Miami?
- A Conflicting thoughts more, there was a lot
- 7 to think about.
- O Okay.
- A It's a, a big move that wasn't, coming
- 10 over it wasn't something that I anticipated. It was
- 11 -- I wasn't really coming over there under the, the
- 12 assumption that I was to work for, with this IndyCar
- 13 project that we're talking about at the time back in
- 14 Australia.
- 15 Q But later on you agreed to move, right?
- 16 That's correct. A
- 17 Q Do you feel you could have said no to the
- 18 move?
- 19 A Could I have said no?
- Q Yes. 20
- 21 A Sure.

800-726-7007

- (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 7 is marked for 22
- 23 identification.)
- 24 BY MS. FEROT:
- Q All right, I'm going to hand you a copy

1 which we'll mark as Exhibit 7. Do you recognize

- 2 this document?
- A Yes, I do.
- 4 O What is it?
- 5 A It's a, I think a screenshot of a Teams
- 6 conversation between myself and Amanda LeCheminant.

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Page 37

- Q Okay. And there is the text message from
- 8 December, September 10, 2021, saying, hey Amanda, no
- 9 problem, looking forward to seeing you guys, Dimitri
- 10 also asked if you could send the contact deleted for
- 11 our immigration lawyer, I believe his name was Mark.
- 12 Is that what you texted her?
- 13 A Yes.
- Q And she responded, yes, Mark Katsman, and
- 15 she gives the contact information; is that correct?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q Who was Mark Katsman?
- 18 A He was the immigration attorney for
- 19 Motorsport Games at the time.
- (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 8 is marked for
- 21 identification.)
- 22 BY MS. FEROT:
- 23 Q Okay. I'm going to be handing you what we
- 24 will mark as Exhibit Number 8. Do you recognize
- 25 this document?

Page 35

- 1 A Yes, I do.
- Q So if you go to the bottom of the e-mail
- 3 you can see that it's from Amanda LeCheminant, sent
- 4 on September 9, 2021, which I believe with the time
- 5 difference in Australia is the same day you sent the
- 6 text message earlier, and she's sending it to you
- 7 and Mark Katsman; is that correct?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q And she's making the introduction, right?
- 10 A That's correct.
- 11 Q And in response on Page 1 Mr. Katsman
- 12 offers his assistance.
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q Okay. Who paid for Mr. Katsman's
- 15 services?
- A I don't believe he was ever paid. 16
- 17 You don't believe he was ever paid? Q
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q Did he get a retainer?
- 20 A Not to my knowledge, that I know.
 - Q Could it be that he was paid by Motorsport
- 22 without you knowing?
- 23 MR. AYALA: Form. Form.
- 24 THE WITNESS: It could be, but I don't
- believe so.

10 (Pages 34 - 37)

21

Page 40 Page 38 1 BY MS. FEROT: 1 you information about -- about possible visa, two Q IN any event, you never paid for his 2 options, two visa options. Do you see that? 3 services? A I do. Q The first one is L-1, the L-1 option, and A I never paid for his services, no. Q Why would you forward this e-mail to your 5 he explains what it is about. And the second one, 5 6 personal e-mail account? 6 the E-3. A This was, well, it was directly after 7 A Yes. 8 8 conversations with, with Dimitri, that intimated Q And that's in September 20, 2021. 9 that he made misrepresentations about the agreement 9 A September 2021, yes. 10 that we had previously, and I sent it as, as proof. 10 MS. FEROT: Okay. All right. Should I Q So around that date, January 1, 2023, 11 hand that to you now, or --12 you're starting to send yourself some e-mails THE COURT REPORTER: You can e-mail. 12 13 because of what you call misrepresentations? 13 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 10 is marked for A I believe so. 14 identification.) 14 15 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 9 is marked for 15 BY MS. FEROT: identification.) Q I'm going to hand to you what we will mark 16 17 BY MS. FEROT: 17 as Exhibit 10. Here -- do you recognize this Q Okay. I'm going to move on to Exhibit 18 e-mail? 19 Number 9. 19 A I do, yes. 20 MR. AYALA: Impressed you use paper with 20 Q So you're sending to yourself on March 21 the little sticker still, as --21 2023 an e-mail thread which if we look at the bottom 22 MS. FEROT: We're with --22 starts with an e-mail from Jack Griffin to a lot of 23 MR. AYALA: As back, back in the day. 23 people. 24 24 MS. FEROT: We are very old fashioned A Yes. 25 here, like in first, and then actual paper 25 And it says, hi all, as shared earlier I Page 41 Page 39 1 1 am pleased to announce that Zach Griffin will become exhibit. 2 BY MS. FEROT: 2 our MSGM Studios director of technology effective as Q So here this is an e-mail from Mark 3 of this week. 4 Katsman to you, Mr. Griffin, sent on Monday 4 A Yes. 5 September 20, 2021 regarding your emigration to the 5 Q Do you see that? And what date was that? 6 United States. The subject is emigrating to the USA 6 A What week was that? 7 from Australia. Do you recognize this e-mail? 7 Q What date? A Yes, I do. 8 A The e-mail is from Wednesday October 6, Q Okay. And if you go to the first, to the 9 2021. 10 bottom of the thread, you see that you are reaching 10 Q Okay. And that's when you were promoted 11 out to Mr. Katsman, what looks, after phone call, it 11 as director of technology. 12 says thanks for your time on the phone before, as 12 A On or about that time. I don't recall the 13 discussed that included the key points to 13 exact date. 14 (unintelligible). Do you see that? 14 Q So what was your new role as director of A I do. 15 15 technology? 16 Q And you go on to explain that you founded A At the time it was to oversee all the 17 a company acquired by Motorsport Games, and that you 17 technical decision making within Motorsport Games. 18 are a director of Motorsport Games Australia. Q Can you elaborate, like on that? 18 19 A Yes. 19 A What part specifically? Q You say Motorsport Games, Inc. would like 20 Q Your position, what you were doing exactly 21 under that new position. 21 me to transfer to their Miami office, I have a A It was to make technical decisions, such 22 fiance we can get married in time, we need to be 23 able to work in the United States. 23 as what technology platforms we should be using for

11 (Pages 38 - 41)

24 the games that were already contracted to produce.

Q Okay. And that occurred after you had

A Yes.

Q And in response to that Mr. Katsman gives

24

25

- 1 first discussed your relocation.
- A After, yes, that's correct.
- Q So this promotion was contemplating your
- 4 relocation.
- 5 A Sorry, can you clarify that?
- Q That this -- this promotion on October
- 7 2021 was done after you had already discussed with
- 8 Mr. Kozko your relocation to Miami.
- A That's correct.
- 10 Q Okay. And you agreed to your relocation
- 11 at the time?
- 12 A I had, yes.
- 13 Q Okay. So this new position was given in
- 14 connection with your relocation.
- A I believe there was probably conversations
- 16 as to why this is fast tracked ahead of me
- 17 transferring, there were more political, I guess
- 18 issues between some of the senior management in the
- 19 company.
- 20 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 11 is marked for
- 21 identification.)
- 22 BY MS. FEROT:
- Q Okay. All right. I will be handing you
- 24 (unintelligible) what we will mark as Exhibit 11.
- 25 Do you recognize this document?

- 1 employment agreement they referred to the contract
- 2 that we just saw before as Exhibit --
- A Four.

10

- 4 Q -- Number 4; is that right?
- 5 A That's correct.
- 6 Q So now your position is director of
- 7 technology and director of studio for Motorsport
- Games Australia.
- A That's correct.
 - Q So did it modify the terms of your
- 11 employment agreement, besides the new position?
- 12 A No, not under this.
- 13 Q Okay. Because the letter say all terms
- 14 and conditions remain the same, right?
- MR. AYALA: Objection to form. 15
- THE WITNESS: That's --16
- 17 BY MS. FEROT:
- Q Is that right? 18
- 19 A That's correct.
- 20 Q Do you see that?
- 21 A I see that.
- 22 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 12 is marked for
- 23 identification.)
- 24 BY MS. FEROT:
- 25 Q All right. I am now handing you a copy of

Page 43

- 1 A I do, yes.
- Q So this is a letter from October 7, 2021.
- 3 Do you see that?
- A I do.
- Q Send a e-mail to you, it says Dear Zach,
- 6 variation of employment agreement, I am writing with
- 7 reference to Item Number 3 of the schedule written
- 8 in your employment agreement, your job title has 9 been changed to director of technology and director
- 10 of studio Motorsport Games Australia as of October
- 11 4, 2021.
- 12 A Yes.
- Q Please be advised that all other terms and
- 14 conditions relating to your employment agreement
- 15 dated March 16, 2021 remain the same.
- 16 A Yes.
- Q I would like to take this opportunity to
- 18 congratulate you on, on your achievement. So who
- 19 signed this letter?
- 20 A Myself and Dawn Saunders.
- 21 O Who was Dawn?
- A Senior Human Resources Manager. 22
- 23 Q Okay.
- 24 A From her signature in the e-mail.
- 25 Q Okay. And when they referred to your

Page 45

Page 44

- 1 what we will mark as Exhibit Number 12. Do you
- 2 recognize this e-mail?
- 3 A I do.
- Q And that's sent from you, Mr. Griffin, to
- 5 Mr. Katsman, and it's dated October 12, 2021. Is
- 6 that what you see?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q And it says, hi, Mark, thank you for all
- 9 the information you've provided, I've only got back
- 10 to Australia last week, my preference is to proceed
- 11 with the L-1 visa, as it is also my understanding
- 12 that it provides a quicker more, more
- 13 straightforward pathway to the green card. And then
- 14 you ask a few questions about that L-1 visa.
- 15 A That's correct.
- 16 Q So you're giving Mr. Katsman your
- 17 preference to the L-1.
- A Yes, based on the information that I was 18
- 19 provided.
- 20 Q Okay. So why did you prefer the L-1?
- A It has a quicker path to the, to a green 21
- 22 card here.
- 23 Q Okay. And so the -- the e-mail we saw
- 24 just before was where he ask you about those options
- 25 is from September '21. So if you go on Page 2 we

12 (Pages 42 - 45)

Page 46	Page 48
1 see the e-mail you're responding to, right? Do you	1 believe I don't believe I did, because I don't
2 see that, the date, September 21, 2021?	2 think I had any questions.
3 A I'm sorry, could you repeat that?	3 Q Okay, so that's the reason you didn't
4 Q So your e-mail on October 12, 2021 is in	4 respond.
5 response to Mr. Katsman e-mail sent on September 21,	5 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 14 is marked for
6 2021. Do you see that?	6 identification.)
7 A Yes.	7 BY MS. FEROT:
8 Q Okay. So why did you take twenty one days	8 Q Okay. I'm going to be handing you what we
9 to respond?	9 will mark as Exhibit Number 14. Okay, this is an
10 A I believe I was traveling then. There may	10 exhibit that includes confidential information, so
11 have been another phone call between Mark and I, I	11 if you
12 don't recall exactly, but I was traveling. I was	MS. FEROT: Can we go off the record just
13 also in the hotel in quarantine. I don't recall	for a second so I can get assistance?
14 what else happened in between that time.	VIDEOGRAPHER: Sure. The time is 11:12
15 Q So you were quarantined for two weeks; is	a.m. We are off the record.
16 that correct?	16 (Thereupon, the deposition is off the record, and
17 A That's correct.	the proceeding continues as follows:)
18 Q Okay. Did you have access to internet	18 VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 11:16 a.m. We
19 during that time?	19 are on the record.
20 A I did, yes.	20 BY MS. FEROT:
Q Okay. Could you call anyone by phone?	21 Q Thank you. So I'm going to hand you a
A I could, yes.Q Including your family and friends?	22 copy of the Exhibit Number 14. So as you can see
23 Q Including your family and friends? 24 A Yes.	23 it's a message from you, Mr. Griffin, to Dimitri24 Kozko. I believe it's a Team conversation.
25 Q Okay. You were not married then, right?	25 A Mm-hmm.
25 Q Okay. Tou were not married then, right?	23 A Willi-Illilli.
Page 47	Page 49
1 A Not at the time, no, engaged.	1 Q You cannot see what's in it because some
2 Q You were engaged.	2 of your
3 A Yes.	3 A Yes.
4 Q When did you get engaged?	4 MS. FEROT: There is that fine, can I
5 A In July 23, 2021.	5 just start, do it, and you will transcribe?
6 Q And when did you get married?	6 Mr. Maura, do I need to do the whole ordeal, or
7 A February 22, 2022. Something about the	7 just the relevant part is fine with you, or are
8 American dates, 22, 02, 22302.	8 you going to object?
9 Q So February 22, 2022.	9 MR. AYALA: We can we could start with
10 A Yes, that's correct.	10 the relevant I don't know what has, did
11 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 13 is marked for 12 identification.)	11 you provide that in discovery?12 MS. FEROT: Yes.
,	
13 BY MS. FEROT: 14 Q Okay. I'm going to be handing you what we	MR. AYALA: You did? MS. FEROT: Yes.
15 will mark as Exhibit 13. Do you recognize this e-	14 MS. FEROT: Yes. 15 MR. AYALA: It is there?
16 mail?	16 MS. FEROT: Yes.
17 A Yes, I do.	17 MR. AYALA: Okay.
18 Q And that you see it's from Mr. Katsman to	17 MR. ATALA: Okay. 18 MS. FEROT: I can
19 you, Mr. Griffin, with a date of October 14, 2021.	19 MR. AYALA: I didn't recall an audio, to
20 A Yes.	20 be honest. I don't, I only saw paper.
21 Q And here Mr. Katsman appears to be giving	21 MS. FEROT: If you look at the Bates stamp
22 you information about your visa.	22 it's MSGM380.
23 A Yes, it appears so.	23 MR. AYALA: Okay.
24 Q Did you fill out right away?	24 MS. FEROT: So if you go to the production
25 A Two days. I don't recall. I don't	25 there
20 11 1 Wo days. I don't locall. I don't	25 01010

13 (Pages 46 - 49)

	Dags 5()	Page 52
1	Page 50 MR. AYALA: No, you can just refresh me,	Page 52 1 BY MS. FEROT:
2	that would be nice, you know.	2 Q Do you remember saying that, and do you
3	MS. FEROT: Okay. All right.	3 recall?
4	(Thereupon, an audio is played.)	4 A It rings a bell.
	MS. FEROT: I think it stopped, so let me	_
5		, ,
6 7	restart, if you don't mind. THE COURT REPORTER: I couldn't understand	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
8	it either.	,
9	MS. FEROT: No?	9 another computer (unintelligible) just one moment.
10	MR. AYALA: I did understand it.	10 Beauty of technology. 11 A Yes.
11	THE COURT REPORTER: You understood?	
12	MR. AYALA: I did.	Q So here I'm showing you what you see on
13	THE WITNESS: Must must be Australian.	13 paper format, which is a document with Bates number
14	MR. AYALA: It's a (unintelligible).	14 MSGM380.
15	MS. FEROT: All right, let me try to get	15 A Mm-hmm.
16	the mic closer.	16 Q And then the next document which is
17	(Thereupon, an audio is played.)	17 attached to it is the other recordings. I'm going
18	MS. FEROT: Let me try with another	18 to try to make it work this time.
19	computer. Do you mind if we go off the record	(Thereupon, the following audio is played.)
20	just one second so I can get another	AUDIO: Good morning, Dimitri. I hope
21	MR. AYALA: Is it transcribed?	you're well. I'm just finishing up the physics
22	MS. FEROT: Yes, it is.	22 and suspension tuning of the new vehicle in
23	MR. AYALA: Why don't we do transcribed,	23 KartKraft, which goes out this week, so
24	no?	apologies for not getting back to you earlier
25	MS. FEROT: Okay, in that case I will show	25 today, but it's looking good, so I can't wait
	Page 51	Page 53
1	you the transcription, or do you want me to	1 to show you what we've been working on. I've
2	read it on the record? Okay, I will send	2 scheduled a tentative date to move to Miami, so
3	I'm going to give it one last try, and if it	3 let me know when you have time to discuss that
4	doesn't work we're going to just, I'm going to	4 a little bit further, I've been thinking we can
5	just read the transcription. That is on	5 bypass the, around the, the visa requirements,
6	(unintelligible) so, for the record, it's a	6 and looking at (unintelligible) so, so then we
7	transcription that is automatically done	7 can make that move sooner rather than later.
8	through the (unintelligible) it's not being	8 Anyhow, we're progressing on
9	done with a, it's automatic.	9 MS. FEROT: Do you want to go through the
10	All right, it's not working so I'm going	whole thing? Are you going to object if I
11	to just read the transcription.	don't play the entire
12	READING OF TRANSCRIPT Good morning. I	12 MR. AYALA: No.
13	says here Dimitri. It's Dimitri. I hope	MS. FEROT: The rest is not relevant.
14	you're well. I'll just finish up the physics	MR. AYALA: No, no.
15	and suspension tuning for the new vehicle in, I	15 MS. FEROT: Okay.
16	assume it's KartKraft, goes out this week, so I	MR. AYALA: We do trust opposing counsel.
17	apologize for not getting back to you earlier	MS. FEROT: Were you able to transcribe?
18	today, but it's looking good, so I can't wait	Do you want my copy? All right, so we did it.
19	to show you what we've been working on,	19 BY MS. FEROT:
20	schedule tentative dates to move from Miami, so	20 Q So, you said in the other recording, so
21	let me know, I would, I wouldn't have to	21 certainly looking to make that move sooner rather
22	discuss a little bit further speaking with	22 than later. And that was, if you see the date on
23	Katsman around these are requirements and	23 the first page, October 20, 2021. So what did you
24	communicates as well, so certainly looking to	24 mean by that, looking to make the move sooner rather
25	make that move sooner rather than later.	25 than later?

14 (Pages 50 - 53)

Page 54 Page 56 1 A About what the exact date would be that 1 Q Did she understand that she would be 2 I'd move over. 2 unemployed until she would get a visa? Q So you were trying to go to Miami -- is A Yes, she did. 4 that true, that you were trying to go to Miami as 4 Q Okay. And that was your understanding as 5 soon as you could? 5 well? 6 A That's correct. 6 A At the time there was a, a change in 7 Q Okay. And why was that? 7 ruling I think by U.S. CIS as to that policy which 8 removes that, that waiting period of six to nine 8 A When was that? 9 9 months. But yes, at the, I don't know when it was, O Why was that? 10 A So Dimitri had mentioned it was quite 10 before this or after that. 11 urgent that I was there. Q Okay. So that meant that you needed to be 12 very diligent with your visa application, so she 12 Q And why was it urgent? 13 could work, right? 13 A I believe there are many reasons. I don't 14 know all of them, other than to say that he was keen MR. AYALA: Form. 15 to have the leadership team in Miami, in the same 15 BY MS. FEROT: 16 place at the same time, and that he could work with Q Let me rephrase. So it was your goal to 16 17 me day to day closely in the same location. 17 have a visa as soon as possible. 18 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 15 is marked for 18 A Yes, that's correct. 19 identification.) 19 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 16 is marked for 20 BY MS. FEROT: 20 identification.) Q Okay. All right. I'm going to be handing 21 BY MS. FEROT: 22 you what we will mark as Exhibit 15. Do you 22 Q I'm going to move onto the next exhibit, 23 recognize this document? 23 which we will mark as Number 16. 24 24 A Do I recognize the document, no. A We need an iPad so that we --25 So do you see that it's a conversation of 25 Say that again. O Page 55 Page 57 1 the Teams from you, Mr. Griffin, to Mr. Kozko, with A We need an iPad, get rid of this stack of 1 2 a date of November 1, 2021? 2 paper, it's very --3 Yes. 3 Q Are you familiar with this document? Q Okay. And the -- the communication goes 4 A I'll just take a second to read it. 5 absolutely some are much needed, let's check early 5 Q Take as much time as you want. 6 next week if you have some time to, Francesca is 6 A Yes, the text looks familiar. 7 about to give notice to her employer, so I'm keen to 7 Q All right, so it's a Team conversation 8 formalize it all. 8 between you, Mr. Griffin, to Mr. Kozko, with a date 9 9 of December 7, 2021. A Mm-hmm. 10 Q Do you recall that? 10 A Mm-hmm. I don't recall, but I'm, I'm reading it 11 11 0 Do you see that? 12 now. 12 A Yes. Q Okay. But does that seem like some you 13 Q And it says, okay, let's do Wednesday 13 14 would have said to Mr. Kozko? 14 then. I haven't booked a flight, a flight yet, but 15 A It appears so. 15 will likely be the 7th or 8th. I'll stay until mid-16 Q And why did Francesca, Mr., Ms. Holmes, 16 February, then head back to Australia to get married 17 sorry, give her notice? 17 before coming back early March for good. Do you see A Because we'd, Dimitri and I agreed to move 18 that? 18 19 to, to Miami, relocate. 19 A I do. 20 20 Q Okay. And did she have a visa at that Q So is that what happened, you stayed until 21 mid-February, and then headed back to Australia and 21 time? 22 got married? A No. she did not. 22 23 Q So did she know that she would be 23 A No, I believe it changed. There was --24 when I was over here in January the president of the 24 unemployed until she would get a visa?

15 (Pages 54 - 57)

25 company was fired, and I took on my expanded role at

25

A I'm sorry?

Page 58 1 that time, and I believe I had Covid at the same 1 A Yes. 2 time. Q And then if you turn the page you have the Q I'm sorry. 3 response. It's a composite exhibit of two messages. 3 A And I had to travel to the, to the U.K. I 4 You have the response on the same date, where you 4 5 respond to Mr. Kozko, thank you, feeling good, and 5 think also around then. I don't recall the exact 6 dates. 6 looking forward to getting over there. Do you see 7 that? 7 Q Who was the president? 8 A Steven Hood, who is now CEO of Motorsport 8 A I do. 9 9 Games. Q Do you remember that? Q Okay. So when you came in January in 10 A I don't recall, but I can see it. 10 11 Miami -- or you did come in January to Miami, right? Q Are you looking forward to move to Miami 11 A I did, yes. 12 then? 13 Q Of that year. What visa did you have? 13 A Yes. A I had a, it's under the visa waiver, so (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 18 is marked for 14 15 15 there was no visa, it was under the ESTA (ph) identification.) 16 program. And it was generally for business. 16 BY MS. FEROT: Q But is this a waiver of several visas, for 17 Q All right, I'm going to handing you what a 18 you it was the B-1? 18 copy of what we'll mark as Exhibit 18. Do you A No, I'm not familiar with that. There's 19 recognize this document? 20 the ESTA, I believe it's agreement between Australia 20 A I do, yes. 21 and the U.S. There's three categories. There's a 21 Q So it's an e-mail from you, Mr. Griffin, 22 leisure travel category, and there's a business 22 to Mr. Katsman, dated January 4, 2022. The subject 23 category. 23 is immigrating to the United States, and you are e-24 mailing Mr. Griffin --Q Okay. So you came under a visa waiver 25 program, and the plan, was it your plan to change 25 A Mr. Katsman? Page 59 1 then to an L-1? Q Mr. Katsman, sorry. Thank you. Saying, A It was -- not -- not during that trip, but 2 hi, Mark, happy new year, I hope you were able to 3 enjoy some time off with your family, as we approach 3 we were informed, me, during one of our 4 conversations, that we could file a change of status 4 the date we can officially begin the immigration 5 once in the U.S. After the 16th of March, that 5 process, I would like to prepare as much 6 first year anniversary. 6 documentation as possible, assuming we would apply 7 Q So March 16, 2021 was when you --7 for the L-1 or L-2 visas, respectively, what A 2022. So March 16, 2021 is the, when I 8 documentation do you require for both application. 9 first joined. The year after. 9 A Yes. Q So -- okay, understood. So March 2022 10 Q So here you are asking for all the 11 would be the time of the change of status. 11 documents you need for your application; is that 12 A Mm-hmm. 12 correct? 13 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 17 is marked for 13 A That's correct. 14 identification.) 14 Q And we're in January 4, 2022. 15 BY MS. FEROT: 15 A Yes. Q All right. I'm going to be handing you 16 Q And you -- we've seen earlier that you 17 what we will mark as Exhibit Number 17, which is 17 were introduced to Mr. Katsman on September 10,

> 20 Q So why were you not gathering the 21 documents before then?

A Yes.

A I had, based on some of our conversations

23 on the, the phone with him, and I've gathered that. 24 And there were documents as well, I think for, for

25 my wife as well, that, the documents he mentioned on

18 2021.

19

Veritext Legal Solutions

305-376-8800

Page 60

Page 61

25 BETA yesterday.

19 document?

18 also a Teams message. Do you recognize this

A Again, I don't recognize it, but I'm 21 trusting that it's a conversation on Teams.

O So it's from Dimitri Kozko to Zach

23 Griffin, and dated December 24, 2021, and it says,

24 congrats on launching, launching the multi-player

Page 62 Page 64 1 the phone, which was the tax return and like, like 1 Melbourne to Miami on January 22nd. 2 my passport, and whether I had a passport, I'm 2 3 sorry, university diploma, I already had. 3 Q Do you recognize this document? Q Okay. So Mr. Katsman had told you then in 4 5 his conversation that you needed to gather a tax 5 Q So did you arrive in Miami on, on that 6 return and your diplomas? 6 date? A He mentioned several documents. 7 7 A The 9th of January? Q Okav. 8 8 Q Yeah, that's mentioned here. 9 9 A It would have been the 10th of January at A And a few of those were what we --10 Q Okay. But you weren't sure what -- were 10 5:41. I'm not sure if there were any flight delays. 11 you sure that was exhausted? 11 I don't recall. A In what way? 12 12 Q So January -- yeah, 8th of --13 Q Did -- in this e-mail you are asking for 13 A Or somewhere thereabouts, I'm assuming. 14 the documents that are needed, so you didn't think Q Okay. Do you remember if you traveled 15 with your fiance, Ms. Holmes? 15 you knew what documents were needed; is that 16 correct? 16 A No, I did not. 17 A I was just asking for, for clarification. 17 Q You did not, so that was not your (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 19 is marked for 18 permanent relocation to Miami; is that correct? 19 identification.) 19 A That's correct. 20 BY MS. FEROT: 20 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 21 is marked for Q Okay. I'm going to be handing you what 21 identification.) 22 we'll mark as Exhibit Number 19. Do you recognize 22 BY MS. FEROT: 23 this document? 23 Q Okay. All right. I'm going to handing Yes. 24 you a copy of what we will mark as Exhibit 21. 24 A 25 25 A And to clarify, that was the, was to get And that's an e-mail from Mr. Katsman to O Page 63 Page 65 1 you, Mr. Griffin, and your response to your prior e-1 over to Miami as soon as possible, and so until that 2 mail that we just saw. 2 time as I'd received the visa I was traveling to, to 3 A Yes. 3 Miami, to be there. 4 Q And you can see the --Q Okay. So that's another, the visa waiver 5 A They're the same --5 program --Q And he's telling you, I'm attaching two A That's correct, yes. 7 files to this e-mail, and one of them is the list of 7 Q All right. So here this is an e-mail from 8 documents that will be required from the Australian 8 you, Mr. Griffin, to Ms. Malavota, Dara Malavolta, 9 company and you personally, Mr. Griffin, and the 9 regarding your employment. It's dated February 16, 10 other is a list of documents that you will need from 10 2022 at the top. 11 the U.S. company. Is that what you see? 11 A Yes. 12 A Yes. 12 Q Do you recognize this document? Q Did you gather those documents then? 13 A I do. 13 A I did, yes. I think with the exception of Q All right. And if you look at the bottom 14 15 the job description. 15 of the page in the thread you see an e-mail from 16 Q Okay. 16 February 17th from Ms. Malavota saying, hi, this is A And I think there were others that may not 17 a note to you and myself so we don't forget to have 18 a quick discussion, I need to catch up with you on 18 have applied as well. 19 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 20 is marked for 19 if you have completed what you need with your 20 identification.) 20 lawyer, when you come here to work at some point I 21 will need to terminate you in under the AUS, which 21 BY MS. FEROT: Q All right, I'm going to be handing you 22 that means is the --23 what we'll mark as Exhibit 20. This is an E-ticket 23 A Mm-hmm. 24 itinerary and receipt from Qantas Airways for you, 24 Q -- which I suppose is Australian company,

17 (Pages 62 - 65)

25 and hire you through MSG Inc., and completed U.S.

25 Mr. Griffin, as a passenger for an itinerary from

Page 66 Page 68 1 Right to Work paperwork, this isn't something on 1 was early April, if I recall. 2 fire, but just a reminder for you and myself to sing Q So April you moved with Ms. Holmes. 3 before we have, we are heading over, and make sure 3 A That's correct, yes, we both flew over 4 everything is squared away. Do you see that? 4 together. I don't know what, there was a change of A I do. 5 plans, I don't recall what, but we ended up both Q So here Motorsport Games US through Ms. 6 flying together. 7 Malavolta is telling you that they would hire you Q Not flying together? 7 8 once you have your paperwork. Is that your 8 A We did fly together. Q You did fly together. 9 understanding? 9 10 A Yeah, that they would do that at the 10 A Yes. Q Okay. And then you're, you're relocating 11 transfer at that time, once I have the, once the 11 12 visa had gone through. 12 permanently. Q Okay. And did they -- did they give you a 13 A That's correct. 14 date for the, the change of employer? (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 23 is marked for A No. 15 identification.) Q Okay. But you did understand that then 16 BY MS. FEROT: 17 you would have to sign a new employment agreement? Q Okay. I'm going to be handing you what we 18 will mark as Exhibit Number 23. This is an E-ticket 18 MR. AYALA: Form. 19 THE WITNESS: I believe it was different 19 itinerary and receipt from Qantas Airlines with a in, in Florida. There was an offer letter. 20 flight for you, Mr. Griffin --21 BY MS. FEROT: 21 A Yes. 22 22 Q A letter. Q -- from Melbourne to Miami on April 22nd. 23 23 Would that be the flight you took with Ms. Holmes to A Mm-hmm. 24 Q That would be a letter. But the letter 24 move permanently --25 would be between, the letter would be sent by 25 A Yes. Page 69 Page 67 1 Motorsport US. 1 Q -- to Miami? Okay. At the time had you A Yes, that's correct. 2 filed your visa application? 3 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 22 is marked for 3 A No. O Why not? identification.) 4 5 BY MS. FEROT: A Because they were, we were going to try to Q I'm going to be handing you what we will 6 do a change of status once we entered the U.S. 7 mark as Exhibit Number 22. This is a conversation 7 Q Okay, so it was ready to be filed right 8 between you, Mr. Griffin, and Mr. Kozko. The date 8 after your arrival? 9 is March 16, 2022, and the text says, morning A The -- the company had to perform their 10 Dimitri, thank you, we're close to having everything 10 side. 11 packed, I will be flying out on Tuesday, so we'll be 11 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 24 is marked for 12 arriving late Tuesday, early Wednesday in Miami, 12 identification.) 13 it's likely George and I will fly to the U.K. the 13 BY MS. FEROT: 14 following Tuesday, and be back at the end of the Q Okay. I'm going to hand you what we'll 14 15 week, Francesca will join me in Miami for the first 15 mark as Exhibit 24. It's a document with the 16 week of April. Do you remember that? 16 letterhead Dun & Bradstreet Report Request Form. 17 A I don't recall it, but again I'm reading 17 18 the message here. 18 Q Do you recognize this document? Q Okay. But that sounds like something you 19 A I do. 20 would have said to Mr. Kozko? 20 Q What is it? A It was a part of the application for a 21 A Yes. 21 Q So is that correct, that you moved to 22 corporate lease with Gio Midtown. 23 Miami around late March, beginning of April 2022: 23 Q Okay. 24 Is that you recollection? 24 A I was going to be guarantor. A It was in, sometime in April. I think it 25 Q Was it your first application, or the

18 (Pages 66 - 69)

Page 70 Page 72 1 second one? 1 application for the lease, right? A I believe it was the first, I don't recall A That's correct. Q And he's giving that to you because, as 3 exactly. 4 you mentioned, he's the guarantor. Q Okay. And so you're applying on behalf of 5 Motorsport US? A Yes, that's correct. A No. So Motorsport Games, I spoke with 6 Q And he's guarantor individually, not on 7 Dimitri, and then John U (ph) to let them know that 7 behalf of Motorsport. 8 this was the form, and then that's when John U A Yes. Yes, as part of the relocation that 9 supplied us with this Dun & Bradstreet number --9 we discussed I would act as guarantor until I built Q Got it. Was this application denied? 10 up my credit rating, and until such time as, also as 11 long as I stayed with the company, and then filing 11 A It was, yes. 12 the company -- guarantor, Dimitri offered to do so. 12 Q Why was it denied? 13 A I believe the term that they used was, 13 Q Okay, so that was your agreement, that he 14 which was a surprise to the company at the time, was 14 would do that for you? 15 that Dun & Bradstreet had classified the risk 15 A No, not -- not this, it was purely the 16 profile of Motorsport Games, Inc., as an imminent 16 company. 17 business failure. 17 Q What do you mean the company? Q Okay, so Motorsport is Australian 18 A So when we had the agreement was that 18 19 financial? 19 Motorsport Games, Inc. would go guarantor until I A I don't believe so. The CEO, the CFO was 20 built up my credit rating. 21 surprised by it. They assured me that the finances O But that's what -- that's what was 22 were, were fine, and were looked after, as they did 22 rejected, right? 23 all the way through. 23 A That's what was rejected yes. Q Okay. So because your application was 24 Q And that's why you --25 denied you reapplied. 25 A By -- by Dun & Bradstreet. Page 73 Page 71 1 That's correct, yes. 1 Q Okay. And then you had to pivot, and 2 And the second time was it in your name, 2 that's why you --Q 3 or --3 A That's correct. 4 Q -- had Mr. Kozko be that personal A It was in my name, and with Dimitri Kozko 5 as a guarantor. 5 guarantor to your lease. (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 25 is marked for 6 A That's right. He -- he offered to do so. (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 26 is marked for 7 identification.) 8 8 BY MS. FEROT: identification.) Q Okay. I'm going to hand you over -- I'm 9 BY MS. FEROT: 10 going to hand you, all right, the, what we will mark 10 Q Okay. I am not, now handing you a copy of 11 as Exhibit Number 25. It's a composite -- or 11 what we will mark as Exhibit Number 26. 12 actually I don't know if it's composite, but that's 12 A Big lease contract, is it? 13 how it was produced to us --13 Q Yeah, very big. A Mm-hmm. 14 A Yes. 14 Q -- by you, Mr. Griffin. And before there 15 Q But you don't have to read it, just 16 are confidential information about Mr. Kozko in this 16 familiar with it. Do you recognize, recognize this 17 exhibit I will designate it as confidential on the 17 document? A I do, yes. 18 record. 18 19 A Yes. 19 Q What is it? 20 Q Do you recognize this document? 20 A It's a lease agreement between myself, my 21 A I do, yes. 21 now wife, and then wife too actually, to lease an Q Can you tell me what it is? 22 apartment here in Miami. 22 23 A It was Dimitri's bank account and proof of 23 Q Okay. How long was your lease?

19 (Pages 70 - 73)

24

25

A I believe it was fifteen months.

Q And do you see in clause number three at

24 income.

Q And this was given to you for your

Page 74 Page 76 1 the top of the page? Q Yeah. And this is Dimitri Kozko, a A Yes. 2 communications between Mr. Kozko and what appears to Q And it says that the initial term of the 3 be you, Mr. Griffin. Do you recognize this 4 lease contract begins May 2022, and ends on the 19th 4 document? 5 day of August 2023. Do you see that? 5 A I do, yes. A I do, yes. 6 Q Was it a communications between you and 7 Q Why did you decide on a fifteen month 7 Mr. Kozko? 8 lease? A Yes, it was. A At the time in Miami there was a shortage Q And Mr. Kozko says, hi Zach, did you get 10 of apartments for, for rent, or for lease, because 10 the expense reimbursement for the MIA apartment 11 there was a boon, I think after Covid, and there was 11 expense. 12 a massive influx of immigration at the time, and so 12 A Yes, he does. 13 as part of the options that were presented from Gio 13 Q And you responded, came through last 14 Midtown, or Bozzuto, there was a cascading monthly 14 night, thank you very much, secured the venue now, I 15 amounts, and I believe at the time there was a 15 was (unintelligible) through the, this document with 16 significant step change in, from fifteen months to 16 Gustavo, so I'll have the done and back by tomorrow. 17 twelve months --17 Do you remember that? 18 Q Okay. 18 A I do, yes. 19 A -- or thereabouts. I don't recall the 19 Q So Motorsport paid for the apartment 20 exact details. 20 expense, right? Q And when you entered into this lease you 21 A There's more context to it than that. 22 thought you were going to be in Miami on a 22 Q Please explain. 23 permanent --23 A So I think it was about, during October. 24 A That's correct. 24 I mentioned to Dimitri that this visa process, 25 -- basis. Okay. So you thought you would 25 because of Katsman and, and I guess his negligence, Page 75 Page 77 1 stay for the fifteen months. 1 and not understanding the differences between the, 2 the tax years, or financial years between Australia A That's correct. 3 Q And what was your understanding regarding 3 and the U.S., and because the HR department was 4 the payment of the, of the rent with Motorsport US? 4 completely overrun, that I'd incurred significant A So the agreement we had was that they 5 losses in being able to, you know, having the, the 6 would cover the, the lease, not the lease, they 6 visa. I presented those losses to him following 7 would cover the, my accommodation costs until I 7 that conversation -- that had them. I think the 8 secured a visa. 8 losses were about \$95,000.00 USD, and which I 9 Q Say that again, sorry. 9 believe has been submitted with the original 10 They would cover the accommodation costs 10 complaint, and during that time when we went over 11 ---11 those expenses, also and those losses, the scenario 12 12 was, you know, if I'd stayed in Australia I would Q Okay. A -- until I received a visa. 13 have continued, if I'd moved to, I mean had the 13 14 O So what would cover it, would --14 visa, and then what the actuals were, that I would. 15 15 that I'd incurred these, these losses. A Motorsport Games. 16 Q -- Motorsport -- Motorsport Games, Inc.? We made an agreement then that he 17 17 would reimburse, or cover those losses, and I said 18 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 27 is marked for 18 these losses were pre-tax, and so for me to recoup 19 identification.) 19 the money that I'd lost it would need to be more 20 BY MS. FEROT: 20 than the \$95,000.00, and so I suggested at the time Q Okay. So -- okay. I'm going to be 21 it would be better for the company, so as not to 22 take too much money out of the company, it would be 22 handing you what we will mark as Exhibit 27. So

20 (Pages 74 - 77)

23 better for them if they did it as through a rent

24 reimbursement, and that way there was no tax

25 applicable.

25

23 this is a screenshot of Teams messages. This is

A The 15th of November 2023.

24 dated -- actually we don't see it.

- Q Okay, so they agreed to reimburse your
- 2 rent up until you got the visa.
- A No. I don't recall how we came to the
- 4 \$55,000.00, that was \$55,000.00 AUD, whatever the
- 5 equivalent was in, in the U.S., but the losses were,
- 6 the losses were, I don't recall the exact
- 7 (unintelligible) right now, but the discussion was
- 8 that the losses would be covered partially by this
- 9 reimbursement of the apartment expense, and then
- 10 partially as through a bonus for one of our games.
- 11 Q When was this agreement you're referring 12 to made?
- A About October, I believe. The middle of 13
- 14 October, I think.
- Q October --15
- A 2022. 16
- 17 Q 2022. And was it a conversation between
- 18 you and Dimitri?
- 19 A Yes, it was.
- 20 Was it -- is there any writing regarding
- 21 this?
- 22 A No. There is evidence that we had the
- 23 meeting, which was he had the, the spreadsheet that
- 24 I showed him which had the losses. He made several
- 25 edits to that spreadsheet as well. There were

- 1 references to some of the losses, which was the loss
- 2 of the, from selling the car, from selling our
- 3 furniture back home in Australia, and the legal --
- 4 as well, that we discounted then. And purely that
- 5 was to show that, not that I expected those to be
- 6 covered, but merely as a way to say here is what we,
- 7 losses we've incurred with the expectation of maybe
- 8 he would -- and that was, you know, it was
- 9 acceptable for us because we knew we'd regain that 10 later on.
- 11 Q So you mentioned \$55,000.00.
- 12 A Australian dollars.
- Q Australian dollars. 13
- 14 A Yeah, approximately.
- 15 Q So you are saying that Mr. Kozko agreed to
- 16 reimburse that on October 2022; is that --
- A He agreed to cover my losses, and that was
- 18 done partially by this rent reimbursement, which I
- 19 suggested because it would reduce the amount of
- 20 money the company would have to pay. And then
- 21 Dimitri suggested that the rest be done through a
- 22 bonus for delivery, I think, of one of these
- 23 (unintelligible).
- 24 Q And you said your rent was about \$5,000.00
- 25 USD.

1 A It was about \$5,100.00, I think.

- 2 Q \$5,100.00.
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q So Mr. Kozko agreed to pay -- that -- he
- 5 -- that Motorsport would pay this amount up until it

Page 80

Page 81

- 6 would reach \$55,000.00?
- A I don't recall what that was, other than
- 8 there was \$55,000.00, it was equivalent to
- 9 \$55,000.00 AUD, and the rest to be done by this --
- 10 bonus, I think.

15

18

- Q Okay, so if you were to have the visa much 11
- 12 later you would, it would be helping you out by
- 13 paying the rent during that time.
- A If I had the visa much later?
 - Q Yeah, so, you know, it would help -- he
- 16 agreed to help you out with the rent up until when
- 17 you would get the visa, whenever when that would be.
 - A At that time, or -- can you clarify --
- 19 Q I'm trying to understand what was the
- 20 agreement with Mr. Kozko at the time.
- A The agreement for the reimbursement of
- 22 losses, or the agreement for moving over?
- 23 Q For the payment of the rent.
- 24 A So the agreement was, first of all, that
- 25 part of the initial relocation agreement that we had

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1 was they would cover my culmination (ph) until I had

- 2 the visa, and then separately the, once I brought
- 3 him the, and we discussed these losses, then he
- 4 agreed to, to cover those. So as to minimize the
- 5 impact to the company I suggested that they should
- 6 do this, rather than doing a lump sum payment and
- 7 then have to pay tax on that, that if I, they could
- 8 do it through a reimbursement of the, of the, the
- 9 rent.
- 10 Q Okay. But you already said you had agreed
- 11 to reimbursement of the rent, so the losses are
- 12 reimbursed through the rent. That's what you're
- 13 saying --
- 14 A The losses were reimbursed through the
- 15 rent. The accommodation at the, at the start,
- 16 because we were in a hotel here in Miami, and the
- 17 cost of that I think -- \$2,000.00 or \$3,000.00 a, a
- 18 week, so it was significantly more, and so we had
- 19 the, I took the lease on, and when I heard about the
- 20 financial impact to the company I decided I would
- 21 take that on, that expense on as well.
- 22 Q Okay, so you -- you moved to Miami in
- 23 April --
- 24 A That's correct.
- 25 -- when you had that first accommodation.

21 (Pages 78 - 81)

1 A Yes.

- 2 Q So based on the agreement that Motorsport
- 3 US would pay you for this first accommodation, and
- 4 then the rent pursuant to the lease up until you get
- 5 the visa what, you -- that's right.
- 6 A That's correct, yes.
- 7 Q And that you were terminated in November
- 8 2023; is that correct?
- 9 A I wasn't terminated, I was made redundant.
- 10 Q You were redundant, my apologies. So you
- 11 -- based on this agreement you should be paid your
- 12 rent up until it ended. Can you tell me when it
- 13 ended?
- 14 A The lease?
- 15 Q The lease.
- 16 A It was approximately August 2023.
- 17 Q August 2023.
- 18 A Mm-hmm.
- 19 Q And it started --
- 20 A In May I believe, of '22.
- 21 Q On May '22. Okay, so did Motorsport US
- 22 pay for the rent?
- 23 A For which period?
- 24 Q Well, tell me what they paid and what they
- 25 didn't pay.

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- A So they paid -- there was a reimbursement,
- 2 again, of that \$55,000.00 AUD approximately.
- 3 Dimitri also, either Dimitri or the company, I don't
- 4 recall which, also covered January rent for 2023,
- 5 and I don't recall if there was anything more than
- 6 that.
- 7 Q So your testimony if that they covered
- 8 only one month of rent?
- 9 A No, that the -- there was the \$55,000.00
- 10 payment, and that was equivalent to however many
- 11 months, I don't recall, but we can find out through
- 12 the, the company's financial system, or records.
- 13 And what else is there -- yeah, but that was --
- 14 there's that, and then in January as well, they
- 17 there's that, and then in sundary as wen, the
- 15 covered rent again for that.
- 16 Q Okay. Which was outside of the
- 17 \$55,000.00.
- 18 A That's correct. And Dimitri had also,
- 19 when we first moved there he provided the bond for
- $20\,$ the apartment, which I also then paid back to him.
- 21 Q You did or didn't?
- 22 A I did.
- 23 Q Okay. All right, he provided -- yeah. So
- 24 he provided the bond, and then Motorsport US paid
- 25 for the rent up until what you think is \$55,000.00,

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1 and then paid for the months of January 2023.

- 2 A That's correct.
- 3 Q So for the year of 2022 was there any rent
- 4 that wasn't covered? That --
- 5 A That wasn't covered?
- 6 Q That was not covered by Motorsport US?
- 7 A I don't recall.
- 8 O You don't recall.
- 9 A I think if you -- the exchange rate at the
- 10 time was maybe \$0.70, so I could work backwards for
- 11 you if you'd like, to how many months approximately.
- 12 I don't recall exactly.
- 13 Q But the agreement was that they covered it
- 14 until January 2023.
- 15 A No, that wasn't explicit. No, the -- the
- 16 agreement that we had was that that would cover the,
- 17 the accommodation costs until we had the visa.
- 18 O Mm-hmm.
- 19 A And then -- and again, with the
- 20 expectation that we'd receive the visa reasonably
- 21 soon after, after moving, so the, the expectation
- 22 was, at that time was not that they'd cover the rent
- 23 indefinitely until this, that time, that point in
- 24 time.
- 25 Q Why did you think you would have the visa

Page 85

Page 84

- 1 soon?
 - 2 A Why did I?
 - 3 O Mm-hmm.
 - 4 A Dimitri had made references before that,
 - 5 that the immigration attorney for the company had,
 - 6 Dimitri had worked with him in the past, they had
 - 7 never had issues with him. He reaffirmed that later
 - 8 on as well, I think he said he'd done fifteen also
 - 9 people for Dimitri, and Dimitri never had a problem.
 - 10. G
 - 10 Speaking to the, Mr. Katsman, the immigration
 - 11 attorney, he during the, during our conversations
 - 12 said it had been a, a relatively straightforward
 - 13 process, there was nothing to, to think that would
 - 14 be any other outcome other than receive the visa.
 - 15 Q Okay. But you weren't sure you would get 16 it.
 - 17 A Reasonably sure I was, we would get it,
 - 18 yes. There was no, through any of the
 - 19 communications there was no, no reason to think that
 - 20 we wouldn't get it.
 - 21 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 28 is marked for
 - 22 identification.)
 - 23 BY MS. FEROT:
 - 24 Q Okay. I'm going to hand you what I will
 - 25 mark as Exhibit 28.

22 (Pages 82 - 85)

1 A Mm-hmm.

2 Q Do you recognize this document?

- 3 A I do, yes.
- 4 Q So it's an e-mail from you, Mr. Griffin,
- 5 to Mr. Katsman dated April 27th, 27, 2022.
- 6 A Mm-hmm.
- 7 Q And you say to Mr. Katsman, hi Mark, I
- 8 hope you're well, would like to begin the
- 9 application process for the L-1 visa, would you
- 10 please advise what you require to start this, and
- 11 since my wife and I are in the U.S. already before I
- 12 go to travel outside the country for business after
- 13 the change of status has been filed.
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q Do you remember that?
- 16 A I do.

1

3

13

14

23

24

25

2 process.

A Yes.

6 January, right?

12 start the application?

10 require Amanda to, to start this.

A I don't believe so.

22 why are you waiting a month?

A Waiting months?

- 17 Q So in this e-mail you're asking for
- 18 information about the documents to gather for your
- 19 visa. Is that what you understand it to be?
- 20 A I'm sorry, could you repeat that?
- 21 O What are you asking in this e-mail?
- 22 A What he requires to begin the, the
- 23 process, as in does he need like Amanda, the general

Q Okay, so you want to start the application

Q And the information you're requesting,

A I'm not requesting information, yeah, I'm

Q So you're not requesting what is needed to

Q But that's what you say, you say could you

A Yes. It could be a verbal conversation

17 between Dimitri and himself, it could be between

20 you've been in the U.S. for ten months already?

18 Amanda, I'm not specifying information here at all.
 19 Q Okay. Why are you asking now, because

21 You've been employed for more than a year, why are,

Q Yeah, why -- why the timing of this?

A I think we arrived in, around the first

15 please advise what you're required to start this.

5 we've seen just before, you had received it back in

8 just saying what does he require to start this, does

9 he require Dimitri to come in, for example, does he

- 24 counsel, because they were meant to be driving us,
- 25 does he need, what does he need to, to start this.

- Page 86

 1 week of April. This is the, the last week of April
 - 2 we'd traveled as well. There were many meetings
 - 3 during that time, significant change that was going
 - 4 on at the company then, and I believe there was the,

Page 88

Page 89

- 5 the financial situation as well of the, the company.
- 6 Q So you were busy, and you didn't have the
- 7 time to do it earlier in the month.
- 8 A I was busy. I was working with Amanda and
- 9 Dara about it as well, and I think Dara at the time
- 10 was incredibly busy as well, and so I wasn't getting
- 11 any, any movement, or motion from him, so I started
- 12 the, the process.
- 13 Q So did you ask Dara let's get started with
- 14 the L-1 visa, like you did with Mr. Katsman?
- 15 A I don't recall. I believe I had
- 16 conversations with, with her (unintelligible) have
- 17 to do this. I don't recall explicitly whether that
- 18 was the case. She was also under Amanda LeCheminant
- 19 at the time, who was ultimately responsible for it.
- 20 Q Okay. So it was mostly her fault -- go to
- 21 ask further information to Mr. Katsman before?
- 22 A What do you mean by that? Sorry.
- 23 Q You said she was too busy to handle the
- 24 visa application before.
- 25 A Yes.

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- 1 Q So it wasn't because you were busy.
 - 2 A Ultimately it was the company had to file
 - 3 for the, the visa, and the company had to --
 - 4 obviously I could not file the, the petition with,
 - 5 for the company, it was something they needed to do.
 - 6 There were many other things happening at the time,
 - 7 again, it was period of significant change within
 - 8 the company, within senior leadership. There were
 - 9 many meetings that we had, particularly with
 - 10 external consultants, on the leadership of the
 - 11 company, and so on, and so there was, and also
 - 12 travel during that time, and so I decided to, to
 - 13 move things along myself.
 - 14 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 29 is marked for
 - identification.)
 - 16 BY MS. FEROT:
 - 17 Q All right. I'm going to hand you what
 - 18 we'll mark as Exhibit 29. Do you recognize this
 - 19 document?
 - 20 A I do, yes.
 - Q So this is Mr., well, this is actually
 - 22 your, an e-mail from you, Mr. Griffin, to Mr.
 - 23 Katsman dated May 4, 2022. And if you look at the
 - 24 thread you can see the bottom of the e-mail we just
 - 25 discussed, where you're asking to start the

23 (Pages 86 - 89)

21

1 application process.

- 2 A Yes.
- Q And then on April 28th Mr. Katsman
- 4 respond, to get started I will need to review all of
- 5 required documents from the Australia and the U.S.
- 6 office to make sure we have whatever we need, a few
- 7 months back I send you this list of documents that
- 8 we need, I'm attaching it again just in case.
- And you respond to that, hi Mark,
- 10 thank you, and I appreciate you sending it through
- 11 again, I've included Amanda and Dara, we will be
- 12 able to answer your other questions.
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q Did you -- did you forget that he had send
- 15 them?
- A I'm sorry, what do you mean by that? 16
- 17 Q Did -- did -- had you forgotten he had
- 18 already send you the information?
- 19 A No, not at all.
- 20 Q So did you gather those documents?
- 21
- 22 Q So why you didn't send them at the time?
- 23 Then why did I send them to, to Mark? Α
- 24 Q
- 25 Because we were to start the, the process.

Page 90 1 apartment in Miami.

Q I don't think that's the document we were

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- 3 referring to, but can you take a moment just to, to
- 4 read it, because I missed some documents with, with
- 6 A Yes, I can still say this letter, this is
- 7 -- well, we can read the, the, this letter, which is
- 8 to assess what my income would be, and the contract
- 9 of employment between myself and Motorsport Games
- 10 Australia, however I requested -- I had to provide
- 11 proof of income, and proof of, proof of income that
- 12 I've received when working for Motorsport Games Inc.
- 13 In America.
- During that time I had a discussion
- 15 with Dimitri, and a discussion with Amanda and, and
- 16 Dara, ultimately drafted this. There were reasons
- 17 that it came in this form, as an amendment to the
- 18 contract. They, I believe Amanda, who again was
- 19 general counsel at the time, suggested they couldn't
- 20 provide an offer letter until such time as the visa
- 21 application had, until I received the visa.
- 22 Q So instead they're amending your
- 23 employment contract?
- 24 A That's what they ultimately did. It's to
- 25 show proof of income to the -- company.

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- 1 I'd received the list of documents, which I
- 2 gathered, the ones that I was responsible for
- 3 outside the company, and had those, and then it was
- 4 time to start the, the process formally.
- Q So you were gathering them, but not
- 6 sending them to your immigration attorney.
- 7 MR. AYALA: Form.
- 8 THE WITNESS: I had gathered them, and I
- was starting the, the process, yeah.
- 10 BY MS. FEROT:
- Q In April, end of April 2022; is that
- 12 right? Well --
- A April 28th. Initially it was -- initially
- 14 e-mail was on April 27th, and my response is dated
- 15 the 4th of May, a week or so later I believe.
- 16 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 30 is marked for
- 17 identification.)
- 18 BY MS. FEROT:
- Q Okay. I'm going to be handing you what we
- 20 will mark as Exhibit Number 30. Do you recognize
- 21 this document?
- A I do, yes. 22
- 23 Q What is it?
- A It's a letter that I requested to support
- 25 my, the application to, for the lease of the

Page 93

- Q But this document is indeed amending your 1 2 employment contract.
- 3 A That's what they ended up doing, yes.
- 4 Q Okay. And what's your re-numeration now?
- A It was \$240,000.00 USD. Initially we'd
- 6 requested to have the same bonus, \$70,000.00 USD
- 7 annually guaranteed while I was at the company, and
- 8 then Dimitri said because of the financial position
- 9 of the company that they -- to take a lower bonus,
- 10 to which accepted, to \$48,000.00 payment.
- 11
 - Q You accepted how much?
- 12 A \$48,000.00 put into two payments, and
- 13 that was an incentive for taking the lower amount,
- 14 is I'd receive it earlier.
- (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 31 is marked for 15
- 16 identification.)
- 17 BY MS. FEROT:
- Q Okay. So here this is an amendment to
- 19 your contract with Motorsport Australia, right? I'm
- 20 going to move to the next exhibit, which we'll mark
- 21 as Exhibit 31. This is an e-mail from Ms. Malavolta 22 to you, Mr. Griffin, copying Ms. LeCheminant and Mr.
- 23 Kozko, dated May 9, 2022. Do you recognize this
- 24 document?
- A I do, yes.

24 (Pages 90 - 93)

Page 94 Page 96 Q All right. She is sending you two 1 Q Okay. 2 exhibits. One is a cover letter, as you can see in 2 A Not that they were worth anything --3 that attachment section, and one is the amendment to 3 stock. 4 the contract. And she states, hello Zach, I hope 4 Q So was it the highest compensation for 5 you had a good weekend, per your discussion with 5 Motorsport Games Australia at the time? 6 Dimitri please see the attached amendment to your 6 A Yes, it was. 7 current employment agreement, we have included a 7 Q Okay. So -- and this increase in 8 cover letter that you can use to submit to your HOA 8 compensation is in May, so around the time of your 9 as well, please let me know if you have any 9 relocation to Miami, right? 10 questions. 10 A It was the -- yeah, the date that I needed 11 to submit the, the proof of income, and proof of 11 A Yes. Q So would the first exhibit that you see on 12 employment in, yeah, which is dated, well, the 9th 12 13 Page 1 be the cover letter they were referencing to 13 of May. 14 to help you with your HOA --(Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 32 is marked for A It is referencing -- it's referencing 15 identification.) 16 that, that same document, yes, but again the 16 BY MS. FEROT: 17 context, the context to that was the general counsel 17 Q All right. I will hand you what, sorry, 18 at the time said that they could not provide an 18 that we will mark as Exhibit Number 32. 19 offer letter, because I think they were very 19 A Okay. Can I get some more water? Is that 20 concerned about the position it would put Motorsport 20 okay? 21 Games, Inc. in until I had a visa, so to demonstrate 21 MR. AYALA: Yeah. 22 proof of income they provided, this was the 22 MS. FEROT: Of course, yes. 23 mechanism which they used to provide proof of 23 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 24 24 income. MS. FEROT: Here you go. 25 Q And then they explain they couldn't offer 25 THE WITNESS: Thanks. Page 95 Page 97 1 you employment until you had the visa, right? 1 MS. FEROT: I'm going to do maybe three 2 MR. AYALA: Form. 2 more exhibits, and then maybe we can take a 3 3 THE WITNESS: Though she said she couldn't break. provide the offer letter because they were 4 THE WITNESS: Yeah, that's fine. 4 5 concerned about the position it would put the 5 BY MS. FEROT: company in. Q All right, so Exhibit 32 is an e-mail from 7 BY MS. FEROT: 7 Ms. LeCheminant to Mr. Katsman, with copy Ms. Q Understood. And the Page 2 is the 8 Malavolta and you, Mr. Griffin, regarding your visa 9 amendment that we, that we just discussed. 9 application dated June 8, 2022. A That's what they call it, yes. 10 10 A Yes. Q So you are given a remuneration of 11 Q Do you recognize this document? 12 \$240,000.00 per annum, plus this annual bonus of 12 13 twenty percent to be paid in two installments of ten 13 Q And you can see that Ms. LeCheminant is 14 percent, so \$24,000.00 each. 14 sending documents to Mr. Katsman. 15 A That's correct. 15 A Yes. 16 Q So your total compensation is equal to 16 Q So do you agree that on June 2022 17 \$280,000.00 yearly, right? 17 Motorsport is sending the documents the immigration A Yes, exclusive of the stock grant. But I 18 attorney Mr. Katsman? 19 think for various reasons the stock grant I believe 19 A I think it's the 8th of June. 20 was acted upon, because they, the stock information 20 Q The 8th of June, yes. 21 (unintelligible) entered in incorrectly when they 21 A 2022, yeah. 22 did, so I don't think any employees received the 22 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 33 is marked for 23 stock that they should have, because of 23 identification.) 24 administration errors on the part of those 24 BY MS. FEROT: 25 responsible in the company. Q All right, I'll move on to the next

25 (Pages 94 - 97)

- 1 exhibit, which we will mark as Exhibit 33. This is
- 2 an e-mail from Mr. Griffin to Mr. Kozko dated
- 3 December 30, 2022, and here, Mr. Griffin, you write
- 4 to Mr. Kozko, saying hi Dimitri, please find
- 5 attached the remittance information for preparing --
- 6 for the E-3 visa applications for Francesca and
- 7 myself, as requested I've also included the link to
- 8 the spreadsheet we went through in October with
- 9 money I've lost since moving, not including the
- 10 expenses -- NetSuite.
- 11 A Mm-hmm.
- 12 Q Do you remember that document?
- 13 A I do, yes.
- Q And attached to this e-mail you have the 15 engagement letter for the law firm Cammisa Markel.
- A Yes. 16
- 17 Q Who -- can you tell me a little bit more
- 18 about this firm?
- A Yes. Upon hearing about the, the issue
- 20 that we had with Katsman, and his lack of knowledge
- 21 about the different tax years, and discussion with,
- 22 probably friends, their daughter who migrated to the
- 23 U.S. years ago had used this firm, and suggested
- 24 that we use them because it was run by Australian
- 25 expats, because I think they'd said that she'd had
 - Page 99
- 1 a, that my story wasn't an uncommon one with U.S.
- 2 immigration attorneys in a corporate setting, they'd
- 3 made mistakes like this, and so she suggested that I
- 4 get in contact with these, with these people.
- 5 Q Okay.
- A Which I did.
- Q And you're sending wire transfer
- 8 instructions to Motorsport US here, right?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q Why'd you do that?
- A On request from Dimitri, yeah, request
- 12 from Dimitri. I believe it was about that time that
- 13 he, that he requested them (unintelligible) position
- 14 to pay them.

18 payment too.

- 15 Q So he agreed to pay for the services of 16 this firm?
- A Of -- yes. And they also did make that 17
- Q Okay, we'll get to that. So the, the
- 20 selection of the firm Cammisa Markel was your
- 21 choice.
- A Yes, that's correct. 22
- 23 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 34 is marked for
- identification.)
- 25 BY MS. FEROT:

- 1 Q Okay. I'm going to hand you which we'll
 - 2 mark as Exhibit 34. This is an e-mail from Mr.
 - 3 Potter to you, Mr. Griffin, and also Mr. Kozko,
 - 4 regarding visa fees, dated January 9, 2023. Do you

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- 5 see that?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q Do you remember this e-mail?
- 8 A I do, yes.
- 9 O So here Mr. Potter -- what -- what was Mr.
- 10 Potter?
- 11 A He was then CFO of the company, or acting
- 12 CFO of the company, I believe.
- Q Okay. And he says, confirming we paid
- 14 your lawyers retaining fees for the E-3 visa today.
- A Yes. 15
- 16 Q So after you submitted the wire
- 17 instruction engagement letter, they come back and
- 18 pay --

22

25

1

- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q -- the retainer fee; is that right?
- 21 A That's correct.
 - Q Okay. Did they question the selection of
- 23 the law firm?
- 24 A Did Dimitri?
 - Q Dimitri or the, anyone at Motorsport US?
 - Page 101 A He asked why I selected them, and I'd
- 2 mentioned during the, during that initial
- 3 conversation we talked about the losses that I'd
- 4 had, that I'd spoken with -- on the suggestion from
- 5 a, a friend about this, and that's why he'd do it.
- 6 And then he also said he didn't want anything to, to
- 7 cause, you know, issues between, between us, and
- 8 then also between myself and my, my wife at the
- 9 time, and he that that was okay, effectively.
- Q Okay. So -- with your choice. 10
- 11 A That's correct.
- 12 Q And at the time you already had gathered
- 13 your documents needed for the application, right?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q So how did you communicate with this law 16 firm, by e-mail?
- A By e-mail, and by a phone call, or by --17
- 18 call as well.
- 19 Q Okay. Did you give these communications
- 20 to your counsel?
- 21 A I don't recall. I don't recall.
- 22 Q So but you have those communications.
- 23 A I have the initial e-mail between us,
- 24 because -- the, the call, and then, then initial
- 25 questions of us to schedule a call to us to talk

Page 102 Page 104 1 about it. 1 A No, because at the time Dimitri, and then Q Okay. Did you give your counsel, your new 2 Dara, began to misrepresent, and deliberately 3 counsel now Cammisa Markel, all the documentation 3 misrepresent the truth and, and what had happened, 4 needed for your visa application? 4 and that they'd only requested my relocation in May A No, we didn't get to that point, because I 5 of that year, when I requested the supporting 6 think we discussed this initially in October 2019, 6 documentation for the, for the lease to the, to the 7 sorry, October 2022, I think October 19th or 7 apartment, and then Dimitri made an even further, I 8 something, from what I can see, is when in initially 8 guess misrepresentations, that he never agreed to 9 met with them, and they said that's what 9 reimburse me for my losses or, or anything like 10 (unintelligible) options, and that rather than the, 10 that. 11 having two options, which is the L-1 and the E-3, 11 Q Did they ask you not to submit your visa 12 and having to pick one or the other, the fastest 12 application? 13 pathway was for the E-3 visa, and then I had three 13 A No, they did not. 14 years, I think, at the time, that I could use to, to MS. FEROT: Do you want to take a lunch 14 15 secure the L-1. 15 break? It's a good time for me to stop, I Q Okay. So you were going to go with the 16 don't have --17 E-3 option with that new immigration firm. 17 VIDEOGRAPHER: Whatever you want. A Yes, because the, the new information that 18 MR. AYALA: Whatever you want. 19 they said was what I'd been told was incorrect, that 19 THE WITNESS: It's up to you. 20 actually in fact I could apply for this E-3, and 20 MS. FEROT: I think we can take a --21 then use, and then apply for the L-1 within the 21 MR. AYALA: You're the boss. 22 three year period. 22 MS. FEROT: We're halfway done I think, Q Okay. So you chose them because they said 23 yes, more than halfway -- perfect. How much 24 time do you want? Is forty five minutes -- do 24 they could apply now, unlike Mr. Katsman. A No, I chose them because they were, one, 25 you want one hour? Do you -- are you going to Page 103 Page 105 1 because they said well, here, here's a -- pathway, 1 go out or --2

2 and two, it was another immigration attorney that 3 had been verified. And Dimitri had also conceded 4 that the immigration attorney that they stipulated 5 that I use had made a, had made this error. Q Okay. But people at Cammisa -- the 7 attorneys at Cammisa Markel -- who did you speak to 8 at Cammisa Markel? A I don't recall their names. I think I 10 spoke briefly to Cammisa, or, I've forgotten her 11 first name, But Ms. Cammisa I believe. 12 Q Ms. Cammisa, okay. 13 A And there was another attorney there. 14 Q Okay. So now you know you can apply for

15 E- 3.
16 A I could apply for the E-3 or the L-1,
17 which is what Katsman had suggested, but applying
18 for the E-3 would not preclude me, it wasn't a -19 option anymore, I could actually apply for the E-3,
20 which was quicker, and which we, what we intended to
21 as well once the, the fees had been paid.
22 Q Okay. And it was paid.
23 A It was paid, yes.
24 Q So did you ever submit the visa
25 application for the E-3?

MR. AYALA: We -- we --3 MS. FEROT: I believe we can be off the 4 record now. 5 MR. AYALA: We didn't bring -- we didn't 6 bring -- we didn't bring food. 7 VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 12:35 p.m. We 8 are off the record. 9 (Thereupon, the deposition is off the record, and 10 the proceeding continues as follows:) 11 VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 1:49 p.m. We 12 are on the record. 13 MS. FEROT: Thank you. 14 MR. AYALA: Welcome back. 15 MS. FEROT: Thank you, welcome back. 16 BY MS. FEROT: Q Mr. Griffin, what exactly was the promise 17 18 that Dimitri Kozko made? A So we agreed that I would relocate to the 20 Miami office, and in exchange for that I'd receive 21 \$240,000.00 base compensation, plus --

A \$240,000.00 base compensation, plus

24 \$70,000.00 USD as a, a guaranteed bonus each year,

25 that we would receive medical care, myself and wife.

27 (Pages 102 - 105)

22

23

O How much?

Page 108 Page 106 1 They would --1 and myself. Q I'm sorry? 2 Q They would pay for it. A That we would receive medical care under 3 4 Motorsport Games's plan for myself and my wife. 4 Q That's what you said. 5 Q Medical care, okay. A They'd pay for it and, and receive it. A Under their, their healthcare plan. I Q So when you said pay for it, meaning the 7 fee to apply or the immigration attorney's fees? 7 would also receive sponsorship for my wife, and 8 myself as well. That they would act as guarantor What -- what is the payment? A It was the -- the costs associated 9 until I have such, a credit rating, and they would 10 cover my accommodation costs until I had secured the 10 with, with the sponsorship. So it was a pretty 11 visa. 11 simple promise, was here's the, here's our 12 Q When was that? 12 immigration attorney Mark, use him, and we'll get 13 A In September 2021. 13 you the, the, the visa. Q When that promise was made --Q Okay. So was part of the promise helping 14 15 you with that application? 15 Q -- did you write it down? A It was -- the company themselves need to 16 17 A No. 17 apply, so I can't file for myself, so they would Q All right, so you said the promise 18 apply for the visa and --19 included relocation to Miami. 19 Q Okay. A Yes. Also sponsorship of the visa, and 20 A -- and sponsorship, so. 21 they were (unintelligible) the visa, and exactly 21 Q So they would have to gather documents, 22 what I said before, the accommodation of, until we 22 and prepare --23 receive -- they would pay for accommodation until we 23 A Yeah. Dimitri had said that he'd done it 24 receive the, the visa, amongst other things, yeah. 24 many times before, there was a related entity within 25 Q Okay, so part of the promise is a 25 the business, Motorsport Network, which Dimitri has Page 107 Page 109 1 sponsorship of the visa, right? 1 a, a relationship with the, the shareholder of that, A Yes. 2 maybe shareholder of that business as well, I think 3 Q You understand that Motorsport Games 3 he's married to the, the shareholder's niece, and so 4 cannot issue a visa. 4 he said he'd done it many times, and brought people A Yes, they couldn't. But I relied on them 5 over many times before, so I relied on him telling 6 saying that, on the, the attorney stating what the 6 me that. 7 requirements were, stating that I, you know, in 7 Q Okay, so I want to go back to the visa. 8 talking to him had, had met those requirements, in 8 A Mm-hmm. 9 terms of what was required for, that I'd been at the 9 Q The visa application required Motorsport 10 company for a certain amount of time, or would I 10 to do certain things. 11 have been at the company for a certain amount of 11 A Yes. 12 time -- documents as well. 12 Q And we've seen in the communications Q Okay, so I don't want to talk about the 13 before --14 attorney right now, I'm just talking about 14 A Mm-hmm. 15 Motorsport. 15 Q -- you've asked them to gather some 16 A Sure. 16 documents for you. Q You knew Motorsport could not issue a 17 A I don't believe I asked them to do that. 18 visa, it's a government (unintelligible) right? 18 Q Right. Yes. 19 A Yes. Mm-hmm. 19 A They did that. Q So the promise was not that Motorsport 20 Q Okay. And then they send them to you, 21 would get you a visa, that it would help you get the 21 right? 22 visa. What -- what was the exact promise regarding 22 A No, they did not send them to me. 23 the visa? 23 Q So what documents they didn't send to you? 24 A That they would pay for the sponsorship A What documents did they not send to me?

28 (Pages 106 - 109)

25

Mm-hmm.

25 of, or get, pay for and give sponsorship for my wife

- 1 A We'll have to go back to the, that prior,
- 2 before, there was a list of documents which they
- 3 were putting together.
- 4 Q So they were putting it together?
- 5 A They were, yes.
- 6 Q Okay. Did they ever said we don't want to
- 7 give you those documents?
- 8 A In what way?
- 9 Q Like where they cooperating with your,
- 10 these application.
- 11 A Certainly Amanda, general counsel, was
- 12 cooperating. Dara I don't believe sent in those
- 13 documents that she was required to do. And Amanda
- 14 was terminated, she had a baby, and then she was
- 15 terminated within I believe a month or, or six weeks
- 16 of having the baby, and she was the one who was
- 17 responsible ultimately for, for coordinating this,
- 18 the sponsorship.
- 19 Q So after Ms. LeCheminant is terminated who
- 20 was handling her role?
- 21 A So she was general counsel at the time,
- 22 and they appointed, or they tried to find another, I
- 23 believe it was one of the general counsel internally
- 24 for one of the like entities, and I believe they
- 25 were searching for another, for other representation

1 Q Can you show me the e-mails where you're 2 referring to?

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- 3 A Yes, there is this e-mail here, which on
- 4 the date the 4th of May. I think I sent it on the
- 5 28th initially. I sent them an e-mail on the 27th.
- Q Can you please state the exhibit number?
- A This is Exhibit 29. As you can see
- 8 there's an e-mail, subject L-1 visa, on Wednesday
- 9 April 27, 2022, and which I said we'd like to begin
- 10 the application process for the L-1 visa, to Mark
- 11 Katsman, an e-mail for myself. And Mark inquired
- 12 the next day, on the 28th, to ask who he could speak
- 13 to in the, the case regarding billing and payments,
- 14 and other questions, which was a, a surprise to, to
- 15 me. And I included Amanda and Dara on the 4th of
- 16 May 2022, and I don't believe Dara got back to, or
- 17 responded to this for, until the 6th or so of, it
- 18 was the 6th of June.
- 19 Q She respond -- so you can agree that in
- 20 this Exhibit Number 25, 29, sorry --
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 Q -- there's nothing that shows that she's
- 23 not cooperating.
- 24 A I didn't say that. I said that it was
- 25 Dara on this e-mail, and her response to this e-mail

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- 1 outside, for another law firm, and so Dara was then
- 2 I think promoted to be head of HR at the time.
- 3 Q Okay. So did she cooperate with your visa 4 application?
- 5 A I would not say cooperate. I would say
- 6 she didn't provide the documents that she should
- 7 have, and even from, you know, as you can see from
- 8 my first message, when I kept on persisting, to say
- 9 let's get the, these application underway, because I
- 10 as the employee and person being sponsored I can't
- 11 file for that, that's on the, the company to launch
- 12 that petition. And I kept on requesting it, and you
- 13 can see from, it took her a month to respond to
- 14 that, that e-mail.
- ${
 m 15} \qquad {
 m Q} \quad {
 m I \ never \ saw \ those \ e-mails.} \ {
 m Do \ you \ have}$
- 16 them?
- 17 A I'm sorry?
- 18 Q I never saw those e-mails. Do you have
- 19 them?
- 20 A Yes, there was on in here before. I think
- 21 there was a, an e-mail, one that was in one of these
- 22 exhibits. And then I made reference to another one,
- 23 which is in my notes, but I don't have access to
- 24 those e-mails, they're in my Motorsport Games e-mail
- 25 account.

1 on the 4th of May came over --

- 2 Q There -- there's no response to this
- 3 e-mail in this document.
- 4 A No, but there is another e-mail. I think
- 5 I referenced it in my, in my claim letter.
- Q Okay. So if you look at this Exhibit 29
- 7 there is nothing showing here that Ms. Malavolta was 8 not cooperating.
- 9 MR. AYALA: Asked and answered.
- THE WITNESS: To be fair she's, she hasn't
- responded to this, and she didn't respond for
- another month, so I wouldn't call that
- 13 cooperating.
- 14 BY MS. FEROT:
- 15 Q All right, I'm going to go back to what
- 16 you said. You said the promise was to relocate to
- 17 the Miami office. So what does that mean, relocate
- 18 you to the Miami office?
- 19 A So it was -- I said that they were to
- 20 provide sponsorship to myself and my wife, amongst
- 21 other things, and -- sorry, could you clarify that
- 22 question again?
- 23 Q The relocation --
- 24 A Yes.
- Q -- we said it was a sponsorship of the

29 (Pages 110 - 113)

Page 114 1 visa --A It was to act as guarantor for, for 2 2 things. It was -- again, we talked about it A Yes. 3 -- and they'll let you come to Miami, 3 previously, to, to finance a car, to get access to Q 4 right? 4 credit cards, and so on, and to I guess live in the 5 United States with a credit rating, credit score 5 A So the conversation I had with Dimitri was 6 that because of, he was very insistent and desperate 6 was, was very important, and that's what he 7 for me to, to come across, as you can see from his 7 impressed upon me, and that's why we, we agreed that 8 other comments where he inquired when I was coming 8 they would act as guarantor. 9 and, and so on, that they would cover the Q And a credit score, is it hard to get a 10 sponsorship for myself and my wife, that I'd be 10 good credit score? 11 promoted to the director of technology role, and A I'm not sure. I don't have any experience 12 there were two -- expanded out of that role, that I 12 with that in, in America at all. It was only what, 13 would also be, have healthcare, that they would pay 13 I relied on what Dimitri told me. Q Okay. But both sides understood that it 14 for my accommodation until I received the visa, and 15 the, healthcare, and they'll act as guarantor as 15 could take some time. 16 well until I received a, until my, to build up my 16 A To build up the --17 credit rating. And that last part was conditional 17 Q The credit score. A -- credit score. He didn't give me a, a 18 on me staying with the company, so that's what --18 19 timeline at all. 19 Q Can you repeat that last part? 20 A So -- for them acting as guarantor --Q Okay. So the promise to relocate to the 21 21 Miami office was to sponsor you for the visa, and O Guarantor. 22 A -- was conditional on me staying with the 22 then there was the re-numeration that you stated, 23 company, which is more than fair. 23 medical care, and the guarantee, and then the Q So the promise to be guarantor would be 24 position as director of technology. 25 for the duration of your lease, right? 25 A Yes, the director, promotion to director Page 115 1 A Well, I didn't say that. It was until I 2 built up my credit rating. Q But at the time you agreed to that -- at 3 director of technology with an expanded scope. 3

- 4 -- at the time of the promise in September 2021.
- 5 A I'm sorry, what do you mean by that?
- You said in September 2021 --6
- 7 Mm-hmm. Α
- Q -- part of the promise made to you by Mr.
- 9 Kozko was to be a guarantor.
- A It was that they, yes, that the company
- 11 Motorsport Games, Inc. would act as guarantor until
- 12 I had a sufficient credit rating, until, until I
- 13 built up the, the credit rating, because Dimitri
- 14 impressed upon me having, was to have a good credit
- 15 rating here in America, that it meant that you
- 16 couldn't get credit cards without it, meant that you
- 17 couldn't purchase, make certain purchases, or
- 18 finance vehicles, and so on, and so that was pretty
- 19 important, and part of our conversations that we've
- 20 had, or that we'd had once he initially asked me to
- 21 come to the United States and work, and so it was
- 22 that, that they would act as guarantor until I built
- 23 up my credit rating.
- 24 Q Guarantor for the visa, or for all of the
- 25 things?

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- 1 of technology, also with -- becoming, we talked
- 2 about becoming a CTO, but it was to be promoted to
- - Q So that's the entirety of the promise of which was discussed.
- A Yeah. That's what I believe, yes. 6
- 7 Q Okay. And that's September 2021.
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q So was a promise made regarding a
- 10 particular expense?
- 11 A Other than what I've stated there were no
- 12 particular (unintelligible) that was their terms.
- 13 Q Okay. And typically your expenses would
- 14 be covered by your employment agreement.
- 15 A When I started traveling to the United
- 16 States the employment, or all the expense -- and it
- 17 was a little bit more complex because I was also
- 18 director of the, the Australian entity, and so I had
- 19 a separate agreement as director of that company to
- 20 purchase certain things and be reimbursed in a
- 21 different mechanism to the, the employment
- 22 agreement. But then as it relates to Motorsport
- 23 Games, Inc., sometimes the money came from
- 24 Motorsport Games, Inc. Account, so there were -- if
- 25 Dimitri requested me to travel sometimes I'd put

30 (Pages 114 - 117)

- 1 those through the American office, sometimes I'd
- 2 book them myself and I'd file for reimbursement 3 after
- 4 Q So tell me how you submit your expenses to
- 5 Motorsport Games US.
- 6 A So there's a platform, NetSuite, that they 7 use, and I would submit them, yeah, into that
- 8 portal.
- 9 Q Okay. And what was the procedure to
- submit your expenses to Motorsport Australia?
 A It was the, it was all by the same portal.
- 12 It was a, except that we have to lodge them with the
- 13 accountants looking after Motorsport Games Australia
- 14 as well.
- 15 Q So, I'm sorry, I didn't understand. You
- 16 submitted --
- 17 A So we would -- we would -- so typically we
- 18 would submit, if we submitted an expense claim, or
- 19 made charges on the, the card, and sometimes during
- 20 the, the company, the company's, I guess sort of
- 21 dire financial situation at the time, there wasn't
- 22 enough money in the account to cover certain
- 23 expenses and so I would have to use my personal card
- 24 to do that as well, so the -- the policy was in some
- 25 ways blurred.

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22

25

- 1 Q Okay. So when you used NetSuite --
- 2 A Mm-hmm.
- 3 Q -- it's only for Motorsport Games US.
- 4 A No, Motorsport Games Australia I believe 5 used that too.
- 6 Q Okay. So you just submit it, and then on 7 their end they deal with it, right?
- 8 A To -- we'd have to, yeah, submit the
- 9 receipts. Sometimes we might be asked for further
- 10 information from the finance team as to what the
- 11 expense was related to, and how to categorize it.
- 12 Q Okay. So the promise regarding the
- 13 compensation, you said it would be \$240,000.00 plus
- 14 \$70,000.00 per year.
- 15 A That's correct.
- 16 Q Did it happen?
- 17 A So the \$240,000.00 base I received. When
- 18 I was rejected the, the -- so when the lease in
- 19 Motorsport Games's corporate lease that they
- 20 guaranteed, when guarantor was rejected, and then a
- 21 lot of the, I guess the new information -- found
- 22 out, Dimitri asked if I was willing to accept, if I
- 23 could lower the amount that we'd agreed upon for the
- 24 bonus, which amounted to \$48,000.00. And then as an
- 25 incentive to accept the lower amount I, he split the

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- 1 payment into two amounts so I could receive one much 2 earlier on.
- 2 carrier on.
- 3 Q Okay. And you agreed to that.
- 4 A I agreed to the, to that lower amount,
- 5 yes.
- 6 Q Okay. Then you said part of the promise
- 7 was medical care.
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q But medical care, usually you have to be a 10 resident to get that.
- 11 MR. AYALA: Form.
- 12 THE WITNESS: I'm not aware of the
- 13 requirements for that. It was something that
- 14 Dimitri and I had agreed on, agreed upon. Dara
- as well said it's standard part of their
- 16 benefits package for the United States
- 17 employees.
- 18 BY MS. FEROT:
- 19 Q So that's the standard package for a
- 20 Motorsport US employee. Is that what you're saying?
- 21 A That's what I was told, yes.
 - Q Okay. And you understood that once you
- 23 get the visa you would be hired by Motorsport US.
- 24 MR. AYALA: Form.
 - THE WITNESS: My understanding was that

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- 1 that would apply, and file a petition for the
- 2 visa, I'd receive that, and then be employed by
- 3 Motorsport Games, Inc.
- 4 BY MS. FEROT:
- 5 Q Right, after you received the visa.
- 6 A Well, that wasn't -- that wasn't
- 7 discussed. The -- and I go back to this as well,
- 8 the, the agreement that we had was that they would
- 9 provide the sponsorship to myself and my wife, and
- 10 they'd provide healthcare as part of that, and they
- 11 only provided this amendment to contract because
- 12 they said they couldn't, they were concerned that if
- 13 they provided a, an offer letter, that the company
- 14 could get in, I guess lack of better, could get in
- 15 trouble for it.
- 16 Q Yeah, we went over this before with
- 17 Exhibit 21, where Ms. Malavolta said at some point
- 18 that we'll need to terminate you under the
- 19 Australian company, and hire you through Motorsport 20 US.
- 21 A That is -- that was separate. That was --
- 22 I'm talking about when I required proof of income,
- 23 and this offer letter, that they, again the general
- 24 counsel at the time said they were concerned that
- 25 they couldn't provide this offer letter because they

31 (Pages 118 - 121)

- 1 didn't, they thought that, again, like I said
- 2 before, for lack of a better term, they couldn't
- 3 because they thought it might get the company in
- 4 trouble by doing that.
- Q I think you're talking about another
- 6 exhibit number. I'll move on. So part of the
- 7 promise was for you to be getting this new position
- 8 as director of technology, correct?
- A Yes.
- 10 Q Did they give you this role?
- A There were two, two parts to that. The
- 12 first, there was a, the leadership at the time
- 13 within the development area/division of the company
- 14 had been I guess playing political games, and
- 15 Dimitri was part of that conversation, and there was
- 16 already this director of technology role up, and he,
- 17 they said they wanted to make me acting head of
- 18 technology, I'm sorry, acting director of technology
- 19 while they secured another person, or secured
- 20 another candidate for the role, and Dimitri said
- 21 from my understanding that why is he the, why are
- 22 you making the acting head of technology, and
- 23 mandated that I was the, made it as I was the
- 24 director of technology.
- 25 But there were two facets to that

- 1 particularly important to me, it's more that I care
 - 2 about the, what the, you know, the responsibilities

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- 3 are, and being re-numerated sufficiently for that.
- Q Okay. Was there anything that Motorsport
- 5 did not guarantee that you had requested?
- 6 That they did not guarantee?
 - Q Mm-hmm.
- 8 A I don't recall.
- 9 Q Okay. This -- you said part of the
- 10 promise is a sponsorship for you and your wife.
- 11 A Yes.

7

15

- 12 Q What was done for your wife?
- 13 A Why was that, or what was done?
- 14 O What was done?
 - A Nothing. Nothing. They didn't -- again,
- 16 we -- we -- I -- the petition was never filed,
- 17 because, again, I can't file a petition. We -- I
- 18 had all of my documentation, and again, for what
- 19 I've discussed earlier, earlier, as far as the
- 20 immigration attorney -- they never filed the
- 21 petition.
- 22 Q Okay, so the petition would be filed by
- 23 the attorney, or by Motorsport, or by you?
- 24 A I'm not sure I understand. It's
- 25 Motorsport's responsibility for that.

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- 1 role, the one which was the oversight of technical
- 2 decisions, and then the more expanded role, which
- 3 was oversight of all of the development for
- 4 Motorsport Games.
- Q So were you or were you not director of
- A I was -- I was director of technology, but
- 8 the role itself, there were, again, two facets to
- 9 that role, the one which was, again, the technical
- 10 decision, and then the second part of that was, when
- 11 I moved to Miami, which is global oversight over all
- 12 of the development.
- 13 O Okay.
- 14 A I should also add that the, the political
- 15 games that were being made with between Steven Hood 15
- 16 and Jack Griffin at the time, Jack was demoted soon
- 17 after, and Steven Hood was fired as soon as I got to
- 18 Miami, and I effectively oversaw and took over his
- 19 responsibilities as the director of technology.
- 20 Q Okay, so you had more responsibilities.
- 21 A That's correct.
- Q And that was substantially consistent with
- 23 what you had envisioned at the time of the promise.
- A Yes, because I -- because I said to
- 25 Dimitri at the time. I said titles are not

Page 125 Q But typically the immigration attorney

- 2 would file it on behalf of the petitioner.
- A Yeah, potentially. Hey, I'm -- I'm not a
- 4 lawyer. I'm not familiar with --
- Q Okay.
- A -- the, who is actually doing the, whether
- 7 it's the company -- or whether it's the attorney.
- 8 Q So this application was prepared? Was it 9 prepared?
- 10 A No.

11

- 0 It was not prepared by Mr. Katsman?
- 12 A No.
- 13 Q Was it prepared by the attorneys at
- 14 Cassima Markel?
- A We never got a chance, because at that
- 16 point, again, Dara had not delivered on the, what
- 17 she was required to deliver, and the, with Cammisa
- 18 Markel we got to a point where Dimitri and Dara
- 19 started making what I would consider fraudulent
- 20 misrepresentations of what had occurred. And so --
- 21 and then Dimitri at the time had also said, well, or
- 22 what is the effect of if you, you can stay in
- 23 Australia. And this is only after -- and I felt
- 24 that was quite retaliatory, because it was only 25 after I disclosed certain information which was

32 (Pages 122 - 125)

- 1 required to be reported to the SEC, which, and also
- 2 financial rejections, and so on, which he didn't,
- 3 didn't particularly like.
- 4 Q So when was that?
- 5 A I believe it was either late October or
- 6 early November.
- 7 Q Of which year?
- 8 A And then -- of 2022, if I recall. And
- 9 then the -- in, I think it was December of that,
- 10 that year as well, as director of the Australian
- 11 entity there were significant expenses which I was
- 12 liable for personally as the director, and to which
- 13 I wrote a letter, because I hadn't been, these bills
- 14 hadn't been paid, the accountants had suspended
- 15 their services, a bunch of our suppliers hadn't been
- 16 paid, we were losing access to the software
- 17 licensing, and so on, and it was actually impacting
- 18 development significantly, and because
- 19 (unintelligible) expressed his concern and said it
- 20 needs to be paid, otherwise we'll have to start
- 21 laying off people, and not incurring future -- a
- 22 significant issue for the company, and that I had to
- 23 make sure the company wasn't breaking the law in
- 24 that jurisdiction.
- 25 And so together, I think if you take

- 1 A 2022.
 - 2 Q October 2022.
 - A Yes. And so -- and again I want to make
 - 4 it very clear that it wasn't a reimbursement as a
 - 5 normal work related expense, it was a reimbursement

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- 6 only because it was a way to cover my losses, and
- 7 pay those losses back at a way that minimized the
- 8 financial impact to the company.
- 9 Q And at the time you were already in Miami.
- 10 A That's correct, yeah, the conversation we
- 11 had was, one of them was, was outside within the
- 12 Motorsport Games outside office area, and then the
- 13 next day was in his office, and there was a, a file,
- 14 I think I called -- losses, it was an Excel file on
- 15 line that I shared with him, and when he ultimately
- 16 pretended that we never agreed to it or, that we can
- 17 see from the timestamps in that document that he in
- 18 fact did have access to it, and that he did modify
- 19 it as well.
- 20 Q So I'm trying to pin down the timeline.
- 21 So the promise regarding your, what you call your
- 22 losses --

1

- 23 A Mm-hmm.
- 24 Q -- was mid-October '22 when you discussed
- 25 this spreadsheet with Dimitri Kozko.

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- 1 those two, I guess actions that, him reneging on his
- 2 promise to reimburse me, and then plus saying, well,
- 3 you can stay there if you, if you want, back in
- 4 Australia, was retaliation for being honest, and
- 5 being truthful.
- 6 Q When you said to reimburse me, what do you 7 mean?
- 8 A So to cover those, those losses as I've
- 9 mentioned before, we decided the best way to, to
- 10 reduce the impact to the company, as it was already
- 11 in a poor financial position at that time, was to
- 12 cover those losses, and I suggested the most
- 13 sufficient way that minimized the amount of money
- 14 the company would have had to pay out was to provide
- 15 part of that via this, this reimbursement.
- 16 Q So Dimitri -- did Dimitri Kozko promise to
- 17 cover those losses?
- 18 A Yes, he did.
- 19 Q When was that?
- 20 A During that, so I guess two days, was the
- 21 first where I actually raised them, and he said let
- 22 me have a look at those --
- O When was that?
- 24 A Middle of October, I believe.
- 25 Q 2022?

A That's correct.

- Q Okay. And when is it that he re, what you
- 3 call reneged on his promise?
- A It would have been January, I think it, I
- 5 recall it was late December, or early January '23.
- 6 Late December '22 or early January '23, which was
- 7 after, again, this disclosure that I'd made as part
- 8 of the SEC compliance, as part of being an a -- and
- 9 then also these other compliance issues that there's
- 10 a potential that the Australian (unintelligible) was
- 11 trading whilst insolvent, or was about to trade
- 12 whilst insolvent, and I was going to take reasonably
- 13 drastic measures to, to prevent that from happening
- 14 ---
- 15 Q Okay.
- 16 A -- because I would be breaking the law.
- 17 Q So from mid-October 2022 to January 2023
- 18 what did you do in reliance of this promise to cover
- 19 your losses?
- 20 A What do you mean by that?
 - Q Did you rely on this promise to change
- 22 anything in your situation?
- 23 A I don't recall. All I can tell you is
- 24 that I made, I had a wedding coming up that we had,
- 25 you know, long before signed, and because of, like

33 (Pages 126 - 129)

21

- 1 signed an agreement, and, and deposits needed to be
- 2 paid, and because of the losses that I'd incurred I
- 3 was not in a position, or nearly not in a position
- 4 to be able to pay for those, and so that was, again,
- 5 it was a terrible time, I couldn't -- I was nearly
- 6 at the point of having to cancel my wedding because
- 7 of the position that I was put in by the company.
- 8 Q To cancel what, who's wedding?
- 9 A My wedding.
- 10 Q Okay, so remind me -- I know you said it
- 11 before, but I forgot the date. What -- what was the
- 12 date of your wedding?
- 13 A So because the, we were legally married
- 14 early on for the purposes of getting the visa. That
- 15 was the February 22, 2022, and that was with a small
- 16 number of people so as not to take so much away from
- 17 my wife and I. And then we decided to do as well a,
- 18 the wedding that we'd already began to plan, later
- 19 on in the year when we'd originally intended to do
- 20 it, in December -- my wife is going to kill. I'll
- 21 have to come back to you with the date. I don't
- 22 know the actual official date, I'll have to come
- 22 know the actual official date, in have
- 23 back to you with the actual date.
- 24 Q Okay. Somewhere, well, obviously after
- 25 February 2022.

D 101

- 1 A Yes.
- 2 Q Do you recall the year?
- 3 A It's definitely 2022.
- 4 Q 2022, sometime in --
- 5 A I'll -- again -- can we expunge that from
- 6 the record?
- 7 Q Your counselor is going to send it to your
- 8 wife. She's going to --
- 9 MR. AYALA: Hey, Francesca, what's up.
- 10 BY MS. FEROT:
- 11 Q All right, so to recap, you had the
- 12 smaller wedding in February 2022.
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q You had planned this bigger wedding
- $15\,$ sometime in 2022 after February, and -- so you said
- 16 you were not able to afford it.
- 17 A Well, we were when we made the, the
- 18 decision, absolutely we were. And then, again,
- 19 because of all the losses that I've continued to
- 20 sustain at that point I wasn't able to, and that's
- 21 why, even though we had the conversation in mid-
- 22 October I think we can see from here that it's still
- 23 took a little while for those, for that money to
- 24 come through and, through that reimbursement.
- 25 Q Okay. So eventually you had the bigger

1 wedding.

- 2 A Yes, that's correct.
- 3 Q Okay.
- 4 A The -- the one that we'd, we'd planned,
- 5 the normal one.
- 6 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 35 is marked for
- 7 identification.)
- 8 BY MS. FEROT:
- Q All right. All right, so -- we'll get
- 10 back to those losses. I will now hand -- sorry --
- 11 I'll hand you what I'll mark as Exhibit Number 35.
- 12 So this is an e-mail from you, Mr. Griffin, to Mr.
- 13 Gustavo Roche --
- 14 A Mm-hmm.

15

- Q -- dated January 12, 2023, where you're
- 16 forwarding an e-mail that was also from you, but
- 17 sent to Mr. Kozko on January 4, 2023.
- 18 A Mm-hmm.
- 19 Q And here you -- well, can you tell me what
- 20 you're conveying to Mr. Kozko?
- 21 A Yes. This was, I believe, directly after
- 22 we began to, again, to misrepresent the, the
- 23 agreement, and this was to explain again more to, as
- 24 an appeal to him, I believe, that what the impact
- 25 was, and what we'd, you know, ultimately gone
- Page 131

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- 1 through to, to move to America, and various other
- 2 things. I'd have to take time to read it. It's
- 3 been a while since I've, I've seen it.
- 4 Q Okay. So on the second page on the one,
- 5 two, three, fourth paragraph, that starts by in
- 6 summary, you said, you state the move to Miami has
- 7 resulted in a material pretext loss of like
- 8 approximately \$1,000.00, \$96,000.00; is that right?
- 9 A Mm-hmm.
- 10 Q And before that you, you basically discuss
- 11 those financial and emotional, emotional costs, as
- 12 you call them.
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q So the second paragraph you said you had
- 15 to travel, and that was, that caused Francesca and
- 16 you to be apart for over nine weeks.
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q And that's when you say, when you first
- 19 asked me to travel to Miami in July 2021.
- 20 A That's correct.
 - Q So that was before your relocation, right?
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 Q Okay. So here are you complaining that
- 24 you had to travel?
- A No, not complaining, merely highlighted

34 (Pages 130 - 133)

21

- 1 what we had gone through in the belief of this
- 2 company. An important bit of context here is when I
- 3 was, immediately after, I think a week or, or two
- 4 weeks after I'd left the country the Australian
- 5 Border Force changed the, the regulations, and of
- 6 the quotas of planes that were allowed to fly back
- 7 in, and as a result I think there was only six
- 8 hundred or so passengers a week allowed into the
- 9 country at that time, and so all of the major
- 10 carriers, or nearly all of them stayed, withdrew
- 11 from Australia, so there were no flights back there.
- 12 So I was effectively stranded here searching for
- 13 flights to get back. That was why it took nine
- 14 weeks.
- 15 Q When was that?
- A That was between July and September. 16
- 17 Q Okay. But it has nothing to do with your
- 18 relocation.
- 19 A I went -- during that time, that was when
- 20 I was, Dimitri asked me to, to come to America.
- Q Right. But at the time you're not living
- 22 in Miami, you're traveling from Australia; is that
- 23 right?
- 24 A That's correct. At the time I was
- 25 residing in Australia, yes.

- Q All right. And then you discuss about,
- 2 you discuss your decision, your agreement to
- 3 relocate to Miami --
- A Yes.
- Q -- in the paragraph following that. You
- 6 -- you state that the decision to agree to move to
- 7 Miami was based on the financial benefits it will 8 bring.
- 9 Yes, that was part of the, part of it, Α 10 yes.
- 11 Q Okay. So what was the other part of it?
- 12 A It was the opportunity for the expanded
- 13 role. I believed there's more opportunity within
- 14 the company, and ultimately Dimitri, who'd, I
- 15 currently sort of call it campaigning for me to, to
- 16 join, and I believe there were other people in the
- 17 company that wanted that to happen as well, made a,
- 18 a very good case as to why I should relocate to, to
- 19 relocate. I certainly didn't go across to, to
- 20 America with, you know, any intention or desire to,
- 21 to move there.
- Q Okay. And were you aware of the cost of
- 23 living in Miami?
- A Not at the time, no. When I first
- 25 traveled, no, not at all.

8

1 Q And you were aware of what your

- 2 compensation was, obviously.
- A I was aware I was, at the time, yes, I was 4 aware.
- 5 Q Okay. So would you say you miscalculated

Page 136

Page 137

- 6 the cost of the living to Miami?
- A No, I wouldn't. 7
 - Q No, you didn't. Is that your answer?
- A Could you please clarify what you mean by 9 10 miscalculated?
- Q So the costs to relocate were higher than 11
- 12 you originally thought; is that true?
- A I don't recall at the time. I don't
- 14 believe so, we could see what the, the costs of the
- 15 apartment were. And again, that's the time we made
- 16 the decision, not at the time, I had no indication
- 17 of what the costs were when you're referring toward
- 18 this, this e-mail in July '21.
- Q Okay. Okay. Did you keep your apartment
- 20 in Australia while you were in Miami?
- A No. No, we ended up terminating the lease
- 22 there. We sold off all of our furniture. We gave
- 23 up our two pet cats, which we gave up, so they're
- 24 out there somewhere. And we also sold our cars. My
- 25 wife resigned from her job, again, because that's

Page 135

1 what Dimitri and I had agreed.

- Q Okay. And then a bit further down, the
- 3 second paragraph of the second page you start to
- 4 discuss taxes. Did Motorsport US ever agree to
- 5 cover the tax difference between the United States
- 6 and Australia?
- A We agreed that they would sponsor me, and
- 8 that I would be employed by the, by Motorsport
- 9 Games, Inc., and as I did my research on what the,
- 10 what the cost of living was in Miami at the time,
- 11 and factored in what the, the taxes were after that,
- 12 and looked what we would, what we'd be earning
- 13 there. So again, I can only tell you what we agreed
- 14 upon.
- 15 Q Okay. But that did not include paying for
- 16 the tax difference, that only included relocating,
- 17 and then hiring you in the U.S.
- A That was the sponsorship of, of my wife 18
- 19 and I, amongst other, other things.
- 20 Q Okay. All right, so then you, you speak
- 21 about -- and you, you discuss your wedding. How
- 22 much was your wedding, the cost?
- 23 A I don't recall. I would have to speak to
- 24 my wife for that.
- Q Okay. And do you recall how much she paid

35 (Pages 134 - 137)

Page 138 Page 140 1 for it? 1 A No, I don't recall. 2 2 Q But you see NetSuite, so those are A That's the same. 3 With respect to Francesca. 3 expenses are submitted through the NetSuite --Q 4 A What do you mean? 5 Q Did Francesca pay part of the wedding? 5 Q -- that is right. So you don't recall 6 Α Her family and, yes. 6 also what happened after this rejection of --7 The family did. A I'd have to see what the, what that was. 8 8 I don't recall that specific transaction that it's Α Yes. 9 Was it her parents? 0 9 referring to. 10 A Yes. 10 Q Okay. And Mr. Kozko said please make the 11 Q How much did they pay? 11 corrections that we discussed. A I don't recall. I'd have to -- I'd have 12 12 A Yes, I -- again, I don't recall what the 13 to confirm. 13 --14 Q Okay. Do they expect to be reimbursed? 14 Q You don't. A It was -- I don't believe so. I believe A Well, all I can say, it was after I guess 15 15 16 it was their contribution to, to us as a couple. 16 he took retaliatory action. Q Okay. You said we had to enter into Q Okay. All right, I'm going to -- so 18 contracts for our December wedding based on my 18 typically when expenses were rejected like this they 19 income. What -- what does that mean? 19 would not be paid, right? A So obviously we wouldn't have entered A If they're rejected, depending on the 21 contracts which we couldn't afford, and again in, 21 reason, so it could be -- as he's saying here, 22 whether we had stayed in Australia or whether we'd 22 again, I don't recall that, but he's saying please 23 moved to the United States, and ultimately is 23 make the corrections, so, yeah, in that case it 24 Motorsport had got the, the visas that, that that 24 would require resubmission, or it would be an 25 promised, or sponsorship rather, that we wouldn't 25 outright rejection. Page 139 Page 141 1 have been able to, we would have been able to afford 1 Q Okay. So was it Motorsport Games US 2 it. 2 policy to have the expenses approved before they 3 were paid? Q So you're saying that had you had your 3 4 4 visa --MR. AYALA: Form. 5 5 THE WITNESS: So the -- I guess if the --A Mm-hmm. Q -- you could have afforded a bigger 6 there was the written policy, and then there

- 6 Q -- you could have afforded a bigger 7 wedding.
- 8 A No, not at all. No, the, the idea -- this
- 9 was not at all based on being able to pay for a
- 10 wedding or not. We had the financial means to pay
- 11 for the wedding based on my previous income, it
- 12 wasn't contingent on come to America at all. In
- 13 fact the opposite, because we came here, and because
- 14 I've suffered these losses because Motorsport Games
- 15 didn't get the, didn't ultimately file the petition,
- 16 that we're in this, this financial position where we
- 17 nearly had to, to cancel the wedding.
- 18 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 36 is marked for
- identification.)
- 20 BY MS. FEROT:
- 21 Q Okay. I'm going to hand you what I'm mark
- 22 as Exhibit 36. This is an expense report rejected
- 23 sent from Mr. Kozko to you, Mr. Griffin, on January
- 24 18, 2023. Do you remember what, why are those
- 25 expenses submitted?

- 7 was what actually too place, which was Dimitri
- 8 would say can you do this, can you go here, and
- 9 book this, and that would verbal, and we would
- submit them, and he would approve them after
- 11 the fact. Or in the case of certain travel it
- would be done through the, the company. And
- that wasn't just for reimbursements, that was
- 14 for normal expenses as well.
- 15 Q Okay. So this policy is consistent with
- 16 the policy in your employment contract that -- here,
- 17 right?
- 18 A I -- I'm not sure.
- 19 Q In what sense?
- 20 A What's -- what's the, this policy you're
- 21 referring to in the employment --
- 22 Q To approve expenses before paying them.
- 23 A Well, again I think that there was the,
- 24 the written policy, and there was the actual, what
- 25 actually took place, which was Dimitri would often

36 (Pages 138 - 141)

- 1 require us to travel to a location, we would book
- 2 the flights. There were certainly I think in some
- 3 cases, or in many cases, where it was just verbal,
- 4 and we would submit the expenses after.
 - Q Okay. So in that -- in those cases you
- 6 would have the verbal approval of the expenses, and
- 7 then that would be --
- 8 A Sometimes I would say I've got these
- 9 expenses, and just to, to write him a, a warning,
- 10 and submit them, and he said, and he would say
- 11 submit them and I'll approve them.
- 12 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 37 is marked for
- identification.)
- 14 BY MS. FEROT:
- 15 Q Okay. I'm going to hand you what we'll
- 16 mark as Exhibit 37. So here you have an e-mail from
- 17 Mr. Kozko to you from February 15, 2023. Do you
- 18 remember this e-mail? Do you recognize this
- 19 document?
- 20 A Yes, I do.
- 21 Q So if you go back to the last e-mail -- if
- 22 you go to the last e-mail in the chain --
- 23 A Yes.
- 24 Q -- you see that shortly after the e-mail
- 25 we just discussed where you were stating, discussing

- 1 A I don't know. I can't speak to Dimitri's
 - 2 exact motives here.
 - 3 Q I'm -- I'm not asking about his motives,
 - 4 I'm just saying, I'm just asking you, he's offering

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- 5 incentives in this e-mail, but not payment of
- 6 expenses.
- 7 A There's nothing in here -- I'm just
- 8 reading down this again. All I can say is that this
- 9 was in response to me reiterating in how I guess
- $10\,$ upset I was at the, what we'd been through, and that
- 11 he'd reneged on this, this agreement that we'd had,
- 12 and then I received this e-mail. That's all I can
- 13 say to it.
- 14 Q Okay. And in response you do not accept 15 his proposal.
- 16 A No, in response I again was willing to
- 17 work with him on this, and I wanted to make sure
- 18 that though these incentives, which were ultimately
- 19 a way to, to recoup the losses that I'd sustained,
- 20 and, and from looking at this it incentivized me
- 21 with another mat to be discussed beyond, beyond
- 22 that, I wanted to make sure they were actually
- 23 achievable, because as I think I had already
- 24 mentioned the -- based with these timelines, with
- 25 the financial position of the company I couldn't

Page 143

- 1 your losses --
- 2 A Mm-hmm.
- 3 Q -- you have, Mr. Kozko was proposing bonus
- 4 incentives?
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 Q Do you see that? So in response to, to
- 7 this e-mail, he offers you to raise your
- 8 compensation. Is that a fair description?
- 9 A I don't believe it refers to like base
- 10 salary, or anything like that. That proposed, call
- 11 it additional incentives, or bonuses for performing
- 12 certain things. And this was sent in following a
- 13 conversation I had with myself and Dimitri, which 14 was I guess reasonably heated, where he again began
- 17 was 1 gaess reasonably neared, where he again began
- $15\,$ to misrepresent the, the truth. And this was also
- 16 directly -- that conversation where he, he stated
- 17 that the attorney, he'd known the attorney for a
- 18 very long time, since his childhood, or, or to some
- 19 effect, and, and I think I mentioned certain things
- 20 about the, again, about all the losses that I
- 21 sustained, and that I wasn't happy, and then this
- 22 was sent directly, or within a few days of that
- 23 conversation.
- 24 Q Okay. But he's not offering to cover
- 25 expenses, right?

Page 145 1 agree to something where if they didn't pay for

- 2 services, which was the case around here, that some
- 3 of our suppliers suspended their services, and so I
- 4 wanted to make sure that this was actually
- 5 achievable, and they couldn't use this as a, you
- 6 know, pull the, pull the rug out, so to speak.
- Know, pair the, pair the rug out, so to speak
- 7 Q Okay. So in your own words you said 8 provided an alternative to your proposed incentive,
- 9 right?
- 10 A That's --
- 11 O On Page 1.
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 O Okay.
- 14 A And this, again, was to, to purely make it
- 15 so that, again it was the company benefited from it,
- 16 because it would save the, the product, and so they
- 17 were, again, based on, you know, certain
- 18 performance. But the, it wasn't, which wouldn't be
- 19 impacted by the company's financial position or, or
- 20 them deciding to change the release date, for
- 21 example, which I had no control over.
- 22 Q Okay. Is it fair to say that you do not
- 23 agree with each other?
- 24 A In what context?
- 25 Q You did not agree to his proposal of, for

37 (Pages 142 - 145)

Page 146 1 incentives.

- 2 A I don't -- I don't recall what happened
- 3 directly after this chain. All I can say is that
- 4 we're working to, to come to some mutual
- 5 understanding, and, and negotiate what this was.
- 6 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 38 is marked for
- 7 identification.)
- 8 Q Okay. I'm going to hand you what we will
- 9 mark as Exhibit 38. This is an e-mail from you, Mr.
- 10 Griffin, to Mr. Kozko, and you say I still haven't
- 11 received any contract addendum from Dara yet.
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q So were you waiting for a proposed
- 14 contract?
- 15 A I can only suggest that I was, from, from
- 16 my writing. I don't recall this exact conversation.
- 17 Q And then you said, I would be happier if
- 18 instead we made it payable on my second anniversary,
- 19 March 21st, as per my original contract.
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q So here you're negotiating some terms.
- 22 A Yes, I'm saying which date it should be.
- 23 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 39 is marked for
- 24 identification.)
- 25 BY MS. FEROT:

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- I Q Okay. I'll hand you what we'll mark as
- 2 Exhibit Number 39. It's an e-mail between you, Mr.,
- 3 no, between, from Mr. Kozko to you, Mr. Griffin,
- 4 dated February 22, 2023. It might be a Teams
- 5 message.
- 6 A Mm-hmm.
- 7 Q So I'll let you read it. I'll -- I'll
- 8 read it, but it's not very clear who is speaking,
- 9 since like there was some cut and paste on some,
- 10 some conversation. It says, Zach Griffin, in any
- 11 case it has nothing to do with the above, and I'm
- 12 becoming frustrated with the delays and games being
- 13 played around being compensated, however, however
- 14 you want to frame it, it's not a bonus but
- 15 compensation for the financial losses I've suffered
- 16 by receiving incorrect advice from the lawyer you, I
- 17 supposed it was provided. Is that you speaking to
- 18 him?
- 19 A Well, I thought certainly about, that I
- 20 was frustrated with the delays. But with the, I'm
- 21 unclear as to the, the ellipses at the end where,
- 22 well, we can only assume provided is cut off,
- 23 because Teams typically isn't like that, so, like
- 24 every other conversation has, has not had that, and
- 25 this has, so I'm unclear as to whether this is my

1 writing or not.

- Q I -- I believe it's a reply to your
- 3 message.
- 4 A It's unclear as to whether -- is it a
- 5 quote, some part is a quote potentially from what I

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- 6 said?
- 7 Q Okay. But the first part is something you
- 8 would have said, right?
- 9 A Well, I'd need to see the full -- to
- 10 confirm that.
- 11 Q Okay. Well, based on your recollection
- 12 then, not based on the exhibit, it looks like
- 13 Motorsport wanted to give you some incentives, and
- 14 you, instead you wanted the reimbursement of what
- 15 you call your financial losses, or expenses. Is
- 16 that what happened there?
- 17 A Perhaps we're at, at an impasse with the
- 18 timing as to these financial metrics. I think it's
- 19 possible we just didn't agree on them. I think
- 20 Dimitri was -- again, I wanted to make sure that
- 21 this was an achievable bonus for me. It wasn't to,
- 22 you know, extract money out of the company in
- 23 whatever way I could, it was purely to, again, be
- 24 compensated for the losses that I, I had, and I
- 25 wanted to make sure that that was possible, rather

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- 1 than the company changing release dates or canceling
- 2 things, which I had no control over myself. So I
- 3 thought that was more than fair.
- 4 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 40 is marked for
- 5 identification.)
- 6 BY MS. FEROT:
- 7 Q Okay. So I'm going to hand you what we
- 8 will mark as Exhibit 40, and here that's an e-mail
- 9 from Ms. Dara Acker, also known as --
- 10 A Dara Malavolta.
- 11 Q Correct. To you, Mr. Griffin, with copy
- 12 to Mr. Hood. And she states, hi, Zach, I wanted to
- 13 circle back with you on this to confirm that I am
- 14 aware you and Steven have spoken, and continue to
- 15 speak on this subject, I will await further feedback
- 16 from Steven on your ongoing discussions. And this
- 17 is in response to communications you've had. Do you
- 18 agree that you were negotiating with Motorsport
- 19 here?
- 20 A I'd agree that I'm trying to seek
- 21 compensation in a way that, compensation for those
- 22 losses in a way that is achievable. Again making
- 23 sure that Motorsport Games could not cancel a
- 24 product, or delay a launch, or not pay for a launch,
- 25 and, and I'd have no way of, of getting reimbursed.

- (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 41 is marked for
- 2 identification.)
- 3 BY MS. FEROT:
- Q Okay. I'm going to hand you what we'll,
- 5 what we will mark as Exhibit 41. This is an e-mail
- 6 from Mr. Potter to you, Mr. Griffin, and Ms. Acker
- 7 --
- 8 A Mm-hmm.
- Q -- titled Advance by Griffin. Do you 9
- 10 recognize this document?
- 11 A Yes, I do.
- 12 Q So here they say, confirming that we have
- 13 advanced in Australian dollars \$11,900.00 of your
- 14 \$24,000.00 bonuses, bonus, sorry, today, that would
- 15 otherwise normally be payable on June 30, 2023. So
- 16 did they advance your bonus on May 22, 2023?
- 17 A Yes, they did.
- 18 Q Okay. I'm going to hand you a copy of --
- 19 A That was -- that was in a response to
- 20 requests that I made, as well in trying to --
- 21 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 42 is marked for
- 22 identification.)
- 23 BY MS. FEROT:
- Q We'll mark this as Exhibit 41. 42, sorry.
- 25 This is an e-mail from you, Mr. Griffin, to Mr.

- 1 filing jointly, and based on our income as well.
 - 2 Q Did you consult with a U.S. tax attorney?

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Page 153

- 3
- 4 Q Okay. Then you discussed medical
- 5 benefits.

15

- A Yes, and I wanted to add as well, that was
- 7 one of the, I guess benefits that Dimitri had
- 8 flagged with me, as well as being in Florida, was
- 9 the, the low income tax, so it was something that
- 10 again was factored into my choice of coming here.
- Q You traveled back and forth in Australia,
- 12 right, when you were in Miami?
- 13 A Back and forth in Australia?
- 14 Q To Australia, yeah.
 - A I traveled to Australia. While I was here
- 16 I traveled all around the world actually.
- 17 Q So per your visa waiver you had to go back
- 18 to Australia every ninety days; is that right?
- 19 A Within every ninety days, yes.
- 20 Q Okay. And how long would you stay in
- 21 Australia then?
 - A Sometimes it would be a, a week, I think,
- 23 or so it was, the last time I traveled for
- 24 Motorsport Games. Other times I was in, there for I
- 25 believe a month or so --

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- 1 Potter, copy also Mr. Potter and Mr. Acker, and it's 1
- 2 captioned Failed Transfer Claim with a date of June
- 3 21, 2023. Do you -- are you familiar with this
- 4 document?
- A Yes.
- Q Here you're forwarding to Jason Potter an
- 7 attachment named Failed Transfer that appears to be
- 8 also a letter to Mr. Potter dated June 21, 2023.
- 9 A Yes.
- Q And in that letter on page -- well, first
- 11 on page -- on -- on the first page of that letter
- 12 you say consequently my, my wife and I sustain, and
- 13 have continued to sustain significant emotional
- 14 distress and financial losses. And then you list
- 15 those losses. Okay, first you discuss higher income
- 16 tax.
- 17 Yes. Α
- 18 Q How did you calculate the tax rate?
- A In Australia, Australia -- but I also had
- 20 access to my paystubs as well from that year, how
- 21 much tax had been taken out. I think that was the,
- 22 the highest bracket. Obviously it's a cascading
- 23 system as well. And then for Florida there are
- 24 various tax calculators out there, ADP through
- 25 personal gains uses, have their own, again like

- Q A month, you said?
 - A A month or so. And then during the period
 - 3 of, I think from November 2022, I was in Australia
 - 4 until April, I think of 2023, because I didn't want
 - 5 to risk my visa at all with immigration, or if there
 - 6 were questions, or anything like that, and they're
 - 7 incorrectly getting denied entry, or things like
 - 8 that. Because of the frequency of the travel it
 - 9 would be a natural question, and -- jeopardize that. 10 And, yes, so I'd say about, in that case what it
 - 11 was, from November until April.
 - 12 Q Okay. So you could get medical care in
 - 13 Australia when you returned, could you get it?
 - A Yes, we could get -- that's -- Australia's
 - 15 got subsidized healthcare, which is pretty nice, by
 - 16 the government. And then I had to have a, a surgery
 - 17 there as well after, I think during that time.
 - Q Okay. Then you discussed loss of income.
 - 19 My wife was unable to accept a job offer from her
 - 20 previous employer to work in the United States.
 - 21 What -- what was the position she resigned from
 - 22 initially?
 - A So I -- just could I have said one more 23
 - 24 thing before --
 - Q Your wife had to resign from her job?

39 (Pages 150 - 153)

Page 154 A Just cause I -- the -- the surgery that I

- 2 had during that time, which was about December of,
- 3 of that year I believe, meant that I couldn't fly
- 4 also.
- 5 Q Okay.
- A But to your next question, my wife's job,
- 7 I'm not sure of the exact title, it was something to
- 8 the effect of, was in like an account manager agency 9 role.
- 10 Q So accounting?
- 11 A No, account management.
- 12 Q Account management.
- 13 A Yes.
- Q Okay. And she couldn't work remotely? 14
- 15
- Q Okay. Did Motorsport US ever agree to 16
- 17 cover her loss of income?
- A Motorsport -- again, Motorsport Games
- 19 agreed to sponsor the visa.
- Q Okay.
- 21 A And then based on the sponsorship of that
- 22 visa had actually filed for the petition, she would
- 23 have been able to work and receive the job offer, or
- 24 accept the job offer that she received.
- 25 Q And then you have dual utility expenses.

- 25
- Page 155 1 I thought you no longer had an apartment in
- 2 Australia.
- A No, I did not have an apartment, but we
- 4 still had to pay for, for phone costs. Utility and
- 5 internet might've have been a typer, well, not
- 6 typer, but might be incorrect at that time. I think
- 7 internet, internet costs, we're getting away to
- 8 internet access charges while we're overseas as
- 9 well.
- 10 Say that again, please.
- Have way to internet access charges for
- 12 the, I think a day pass in, with the Australian
- 13 provider which provides internet access. That's
- 14 probably what I was referring to then.
- Q Okay. Then accommodation expenses, but
- 16 you stated before that Motorsport US covered your
- 17 rent, or some of your rent.
- A No, what I said before is that Motorsport
- 19 Games covered some of those losses by, and again, so
- 20 as to avoid the, the extra costs, because otherwise
- 21 it would have had to pay an amount including tax on
- 22 top of that, that I suggested that they should, they
- 23 can cover some of those losses by the reimbursing me
- 24 for the rent.
- 25 Q Okay.

1 A It certainly -- and just to make it clear,

- 2 it wasn't a normal business expense.
- Q Okay. I'm going to move to Page 19 of the
- 4 chart that you have here.
- MR. AYALA: Nineteen? 5
- 6 BY MS. FEROT:
 - Q Nineteen, sorry, it's Bates Number 1529.
- 8 Do you see the bottom of the table?
- A Yes.
- 10 Q So it says notes from Team -- with Mr.
- 11 Kozko and myself on January 11, 2023. Do you see
- 12 that?
- 13 A Yes.
- O So what are those notes? 14
- 15 These are the -- these are the notes.
- Q So at that time, January 11, 2023, you had 16
- 17 a call with Mr. Kozko.
- 18 A Yes, that's correct.
- 19 Q And when you -- and you too notes.
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q How did you take notes?
 - A In a -- on a PC, in just a normal
- 23 document.

22

- 24 Q Okay. So was it a Word document?
 - It's Google Doc.

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- 1 Q Google Doc?
- 2 A Yeah, which was what I used for, for this.
- 3 Q Okay. And do you still have this
- 4 document?
- A I have a copy, I believe. This is the,
- 6 the document. It's possible I've copied and pasted
- 7 this between two Google documents. I would have to
- 9 Q So for every note you would take, because
- 10 this document refers to a lot of notes --
- 11 A Mm-hmm.
- 12 Q -- that would be one Google document?
- 13 A I believe so.
- 14 Q Okay. Would you be willing to give those
- 15 to your counsel?
- A It was part of -- these were the, the
- 17 notes that I was referring to, so it's really an
- 18 evolution of this whole thing to (unintelligible)
- 19 that, that version or not.
- 20 Q Can you check?
 - A I don't have access to it now.
- 22 Q So you don't have access to your Google
- 23 documents anymore? So who has access?
- A Access to my Google docs, or my -- I need 24 25 to confirm whether this is, was a online platform,

40 (Pages 154 - 157)

21

- 1 and it was either Google Doc or the Motorsport
- 2 Games, but I think it was the Google Doc. I'll need
- 3 to confirm.
- 4 Q Okay. So if it was Google Documents that
- 5 would be in your possession, not in Motorsport's
- 6 possession; is that right?
- A Yes. Again, it's been a while since I've,
- 8 I've looked at these, but it would either be in
- 9 Motorsport Games' like SharePoint, like Word. I
- 10 think it was a, a online document, or is my Google
- 11 Sheets, or there was a copy -- I don't have access
- 12 to my computer anymore. Motorsport Games has my
- 13 personal PC, as they have had for a significant
- 14 period of time, since I left in August, so I need to
- 15 confirm.
- 16 Q Okay. And here on January 11, 2023 you
- 17 too notes of what Mr. Kozko said, right?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q So he says you're asking for stuff we
- 20 never agreed on, you never, we never agree, you, we
- 21 never agreed it would be the company's liability to
- 22 cover these items, why would you do this, so again I
- 23 don't agree with your calculations, I think it's
- 24 unfair to keep referencing your sustaining that
- 25 loss, that is not the loss that I believe the
- Page 159
- 1 company cost, there, so there is the big
- 2 disagreement we have here, you're more than welcome
- 3 to stay there if you want, because there's no way
- 4 the company is going to have half a million dollar
- 5 cost on you, it makes no sense, you would be the
- 6 highest paid, paid -- office or the company, you'd
- 7 be in every disclosure if that was the case, so
- 8 before we even agreed I would have to jump through a
- 9 whole bunch of legal hoops and double checks.
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q You know that Motorsport Games is a
- 12 publicly traded company?
- 13 A Is a publicly traded company?
- 14 Q Mm-hmm.
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q So you know that they have some
- 17 disclosures to make --
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q -- regarding compensation.
- 20 A I'm not aware of the, the thresholds, or
- 21 anything like that. Dimitri said this. Again, I
- 22 think -- I work for a, another publicly traded
- 23 company now, and that's certainly not the case,
- 24 there are many people getting paid higher than that,
- 25 so I don't know if that's necessarily correct at

- Page 160 1 all, or that was purely a tactic from Dimitri to, to
- 2 try and justify his reneging. And this was also,
- 3 again, after I raised the, the two compliance issues
- 4 wit him, so this was, again, retaliatory, as to why
- 5 he said he was not doing it. He already -- he
- 6 already covered some of those losses by this rental 7 reimbursement we've already discussed.
- 8 Q Okay. So by January 11th you know he
- 9 doesn't want to reimburse this, the stuff you're
- 10 asking, right?
- 11 A Well, he didn't want to, he was still
- 12 discussing, discussing that, and trying to work to a
- 13 solution. Again, I'm not an unreasonable person. I
- 14 wanted to ultimately continue working for the
- 15 company, even though it was in terrible financial
- 16 position at that time, and there was questions as to
- 17 whether it would remain solvent as well, and I was
- 18 still I think at the time personally liable for a
- 19 significant number of costs, which carries
- 20 significant penalties from the Australian government
- 21 back home. But as soon as I raised up he changed
- 22 his tune, and again, what I can only assume was
- 23 retaliatory, he said that we didn't have an
- 24 agreement, but he clearly made payments to try and
- 25 cover that already.

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- 1 Q Okay. But at the time you know he's not 2 making that promise that you said he made back in,
- 3 in November 20, in October 2022, right?
- A Well, all I know is at the time that he's
- 4 A Well, all I know is at the time that i
- 5 lying in his statements.
 - O Okay.

6 7

- A That's -- that's what I know.
- 8 Q But his position is pretty clear.
- 9 A Towards the end of the call I believe he
- 10 said, or thereabouts, that he really appreciated the
- 11 call, and that we could clear the air, or something
- 12 like that, and he'd always respect my decisions, and
- 13 so on. But so, again, I was still working with the
- 14 assumption that we could find a resolution to it,
- 15 and even though he'd began his retaliation, what I
- 16 assume is retaliation for this, I was still willing
- 17 to work out (unintelligible) to be, to be covered,
- 18 and my losses covered.
- 19 Q Did you record that conversation?
- 20 A I took notes on that conversation.
 - O But did you record it?
- 22 A No, I took notes on the conversation.
- 23 Q Okay. They are very detailed notes.
- 24 A Yeah, because I can type at the same time

25 I'm talking.

21

- Q Okay. So you would say your notes are
- 2 pretty accurate?
- 3 A Quite accurate.
- 4 Q Okay. All right. So earlier you said
- 5 that he promised to cover some losses made October
- 6 22nd. Can you point me to where it would be
- 7 reflected in this document?
- 8 A Sorry, could you restate that please?
- 9 Q You said that the promise to cover your
- 10 losses --
- 11 A Mm-hmm.
- 12 Q -- was made by Dimitri Kozko, mid-October
- 13 '22. So which conversation was it, when was it
- 14 reflected in this document?
- 15 A It was the line number -- so there were
- 16 two components. It was Item 69, which is the
- 17 original conversation where I first raised the issue
- 18 of my losses with him, and then on this, on Line
- 19 Item 70 --
- 20 Q Mm-hmm.
- 21 A -- with where I shared, shared that with
- 22 him. And then I think it says, 72, which is where
- 23 we reviewed the spreadsheet together. And then
- 24 there's a timestamp as well from 73, where it saved
- 25 the modifications that he'd made after that meeting.
 - mg.
 - Q So when you say we agreed to the
- 2 compensation, which compensation is it referring to?
- 3 A The losses, the losses of these amounts.
- 4 So again, we -- there's a budget spreadsheet, called
- 5 budget or, or losses, and he's referring to those as
- 6 compensation for my, the losses that already
- 7 incurred.

1

- 8 Q But here you, you state -- you state to
- 9 submit lease as expenses, and you clarify on the
- 10 right side, submit is referred to lease expenses.
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q Okay. So you agree to the lease expenses,
- 13 and then to possibly a bonus for Nascar. But it
- 14 says submit them, it doesn't say agreed.
- 15 A No, we -- we had agreed, and then, and
- 16 then as I'd suggested that so as not to impact the
- 17 company, and minimize the, the costs, the costs to
- 18 the company, and not have to add tax on top of that,
- 19 that they could do that via reimbursing of those,
- 20 the lease payments that I'd made.
- 21 Q Okay. So the agreement is reimbursing
- 22 through the lease, and to cover the Cammisa Markel
- 23 ---
- 24 A He agreed -- I'll make it very clear. He
- 25 agreed to cover the losses, and the mechanism for

- 1 that was, one, as I suggested to minimize the
- 2 financial burden on the company, was to do it via

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- 3 the lease expenses, because they wouldn't have to
- 4 pay tax on top of it, so that was my suggestion,
- 5 otherwise it would have been a bigger burden on the
- 6 company. And the second part of that was to
- 7 reimburse it through a bonus, or to cover those
- 8 losses via a, a bonus for, for NASCAR Heat 5. And
- 9 that's what he, we'd agreed.
- O Q And then it said, the note said agreed to
- 11 cover the cost of Cammisa Markel.
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q And Motorsport Games did pay for Cammisa
- 14 Markel's services.
- 15 A They paid for them in mid-January, I
- 16 believe, and, and then directly after that is when
- 17 Dimitri told me that I can stay in Australia if I,
- 18 if I need to.
- 19 Q When was that again, sir, that he said you
- 20 can stay in Australia?
- 21 A I believe it was mid -- I believe it was
- 22 in mid -- yeah, it says you're more than welcome to
- 23 stay there if you want, because there's no way the
- 24 company's going to have a half million dollar cost
- 25 on you.

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- 1 Q Where -- where are you --
- 2 A This is Items 94, I believe, on Page 20,
- 3 the first paragraph at the top. This is where he
- 4 said you'd be the highest paid disclosed officer of
- 5 the company --
- Okay.
- 7 A -- I also don't believe that, because I
- 8 think Dimitri was earning --
- 9 Q So January 11th --
- 10 A -- more.
- 11 Q -- 2023, he's basically telling you you no
- 12 longer have to be in Miami.
- 13 A He's saying you're more than welcome to
- 14 stay there if you want.
- 15 Q Okay. So you're free to go back.
- 16 A Well, I wasn't free to go back.
- 17 Q Why not?
- 18 A Because I had this, these lease expenses,
- 19 we had committed, we had furniture we had, we were
- 20 establishing a, a life, that we'd hoped this would
- 21 all be resolved quickly.
- 22 Q Okay. Do you remember when Mr. Kozko was
- 23 terminated?
- 24 A Yes, it was with a day or two of, I think
- 25 my arrival back into the United States, I believe.

42 (Pages 162 - 165)

Page 168 Page 166 1 Q Your arrival --1 IndyCar game that I was overseeing, so on the record 2 A That's when I was back in the US, I think 2 he's, he's clearly lied, and to manipulate the 3 from April or so. 3 situation in his favor, or in their favor rather. Q So this e-mail is from August 1, 2023, Q Okay. 4 5 right? 5 A 2023. 6 Q '23. 2023, sorry. 6 A August 1st, yes. (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 43 is marked for 7 Q And your lease ends on August 19, 2023; is 8 identification.) 8 that correct? 9 A That's likely. 9 BY MS. FEROT: Q I'm going to hand you what we will mark as 10 Q Okay. So what you're discussing is really 10 11 Exhibit Number 43. This is an e-mail from Mr. 11 nineteen days of lease, of rent. 12 Potter to you, Mr. Griffin, dated August 1, 2023. A Is, I'm sorry? 12 13 Here Mr. Potter says, hi Zach, thanks for the 13 Q So you only have nineteen days left on 14 below, Steven and I are still discussing the 14 your lease. A I believe so. Well, yes, I had -- I had 15 relocation package, particularly the furniture 15 16 component, as of today I can confirm the following. 16 that -- was it -- yes, I believe it was, it was only 17 And then there are three categories approved, 17 nineteen days. But that was at, not -- that was 18 one-way economy flights for you and your wife, one 18 from the 1st of August. My request was July 25th in 19 month's temporary accommodation in Melbourne. Not 19 the e-mail, not the, that was their response, so it 20 approved, end of the lease, and open furniture 20 took them nearly a, a week, or a week to, to get 21 shipping costs. Do you remember that? 21 back to me. A I do, yes. 22 Q So how is the cost -- in your e-mail from 22 23 Q Okay. So Motorsport -- so what did 23 July 25th you state that the cost for the lease is 24 Motorsport US approve? 24 almost \$8,000.00. How -- how so? A It says in principle one-way flights for 25 A I think that was end of lease. I think Page 169 Page 167 1 myself and my wife to, to return. 1 there were cleaning costs that we were liable for. Q Mm-hmm. 2 I don't recall whether that was partial, whether A And one month temporary accommodation in 3 that was a single month or a component of the 3 4 remainder either. I'd have to, to go back and look 4 Melbourne. 5 Q Did they pay for that? 5 at what the, the exact costs were there, but it A No. 6 certainly wasn't just a single month's rent, because 6 7 Q They didn't pay for your flights? 7 that was, that's clearly more. A I'm sorry? No, they didn't pay for Q That's a lot of cleaning, \$3,000.00. 9 accommodation. They paid for the, the flights. 9 A I don't think it's just cleaning. Like I Q They paid for the flight, for both flights 10 said before I don't know whether it's, whether it's 11 for you and your wife. 11 cleaning, whether it's disconnection of, termination A That's correct I believe, yes. 12 12 fees of utilities. I'd have to have a look again. Q Okay. And they didn't approve the end of 13 13 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 44 is marked for 14 14 the lease. identification.) A Yes. So they were very clear, and this 15 BY MS. FEROT: 16 was after discussion with Steven Hood and Jason Q Okay. All right, I'm going to hand you 17 Potter when I was making attempts to, to go back what we're going to mark as Exhibit 44. 18 home, to minimize the, the further, anything MR. AYALA: Is this --18 19 further, and they said that the company did not need 19 VIDEOGRAPHER: Can we go off the record 20 me to return to Australia, but what's very 20 for one minute? 21 interesting, it speaks to, I guess the lack of 21 MS. FEROT: Of course. 22 credibility and lack of honesty of Motorsport Games, 22 VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 3:28 p.m. We 23 in that your response to our complaint Steven, it 23 are off the record. 24 was I think Steven who had said that I was required (Thereupon, the deposition is off the record, and 24

43 (Pages 166 - 169)

the proceeding continues as follows:)

25

25 to return to Australia to address issues with the

Page 172 Page 170 1 VIDEOGRAPHER: The is 3:31 p.m. We are on 1 A So '21, '22, '23? 2 the record. 2 Q Mm-hmm. 3 BY MS. FEROT: 3 A So '21 I was going back to Australia for, Q Thank you. So we're looking at Exhibit 4 to return home after the initial request to over 5 and -- Dimitri IndyCar. And then looking at --5 Number 44, which is an e-mail from Mr. Potter to 6 you, Mr. Griffin, on August 11, 2023. Here you --6 where are we? Let me go through it. Yes, so Row 7 here Mr. Potter says, hi Zach, yes, it is approved, 7 22, that was after Dimitri first asked me to, to 8 referring to the e-mail you sent to him asking for 8 come for IndyCar. The first of the 9th was when I 9 arrived here in January at Dimitri's request. The 9 approval to spend \$492.00 for three night 10 accommodations in a building to move at. Do you see 10 4th is when we came here, and then would file the 11 that? 11 change of status. 12 A Yes. This was after -- there was a change 12 Q Can you state the dates for the record, 13 in policy, where every, I think every expense 13 when you say Row 4 --14 required approval from Jason or Steven, or Jason, A Yes. So this is Row 18. 15 rather than the discretionary amounts that, or the 15 Q Okay, so that's April 5, 2022. 16 approval limits that we had under our, our 16 A Yes, is when we, both my wife and I 17 positions. 17 arrived in, in LA, and then proceed to Miami Q Okay. And Motorsport paid for that? 18 directly after. And that was moving here for, for 18 19 A I believe they did. 19 the relocation. Row 16 I believe was on the, was (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 45 is marked for 20 returning back from a trip to the U.K. office. 21 identification.) 21 O So that's May 20, 2022 for Row 16. 22 A Yes. The 6th of June, one of these trips 22 BY MS. FEROT: Q Okay. I'm going to hand you what we will 23 was to travel back to Australia so Dimitri could 24 mark as Exhibit Number 45. This is your travel 24 meet the Australian team, I believe. I'd have to 25 history. 25 confirm. That was -- I travel -- during that year, Page 171 Page 173 1

A Yes. Not including today, this trip.

Q Not including today, I'll give you that.

3 Except for today does that accurately depict your

4 travel history in the U.S.?

5 A According to the United States government,

6 yes.

7 Q What do you mean by that?

A That's a, a form from the, the government

9 website that I printed off of. So I don't recall

10 all the trips that I've made, but according to the

11 United States government record this is how many

12 I've taken, yes.

Q Okay. So and for all those trips since

14 you started with Motorsport you were traveling with

15 a visa waiver.

A That's correct. I think -- I think all of

17 these -- I think all of these trips were the

18 business, I believe.

19 Q All these trips were for business?

20 A I believe so, yes.

Q Okay. But when you would go back to 21

22 Australia that was for, for business and personal

23 reasons, right?

24 A Which year are you referring to?

25 Q '20, 2021, '22, and '23. 1 so there was, a loss.

Q But generally that --

3 A Generally I was traveling for, for the

4 business.

5 Okay. So you were not traveling back to

6 --

7 A I don't recall. I don't believe so.

8 O Okay.

9 A I believe I was traveling there for, for

10 business typically. The exception of that was with

11 November 2022, where I returned for my wedding. I

12 think everything else, I believe everything else

13 there was for business related travel.

(Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 46 is marked for

15 identification.)

16 BY MS. FEROT:

Q All right, so I'm going to hand you what

18 we will mark as Exhibit Number 46. It's an e-mail

19 -- actually it's a conversation, so I think it's

20 Teams, from Mr. Kozko to you, Mr. Griffin, from

21 January 5, 2022, and Mr. Kozko is telling you, FYI,

22 nothing to worry about obviously, but just so we're

23 in sync. And he's forwarding a screenshot of

24 communications, texts I suppose, between Steven Hood

25 and Mr. Kozko, with Steven Hood saying DMA (ph) do

44 (Pages 170 - 173)

- 1 you know why Zach is traveling to the U.S. for next
- 2 week, to which Mr. Kozko said because I asked him
- 3 to come, and he's moving here permanently, so he's
- 4 in the process of searching for a place. And Mr.
- 5 Hood says, right over the deliverables of BTCC when
- 6 he's already the bottleneck for it. Do you remember
- 7 this document?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q And did you know that the deliverables
- 10 were a concern?
- 11 A I was -- I don't recall whether the, the
- 12 bottle, there was certainly a deadline for some of
- 13 the physics, which I was working on at the time. I
- 14 don't necessarily agree with the, the bottleneck.
- 15 Steven Hood was quite a dramatic person, in which
- 16 him making fraudulent statements, and, yeah, I
- 10 mm making fraudulent statements, and, year, 1
- 17 certainly wouldn't trust what Steven had to say.
- 18 O What BTCC means?
- 19 A British Touring Car Championship.
- 20 Q So what is it?
- 21 A It's the -- it's the -- it's the British
- 22 (unintelligible) without saying the same thing. The
- 23 British Touring Car Championship was a racing series
- 24 in the U.K. --
- 25 Q Okay.

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- 1 A -- that -- that the company had committed 2 to making a, a game.
- 3 Q Got it. So who was Steven Hood --
- 4 A At the time he was the president of the 5 company.
- 6 Q Was he also your supervisor?
- 7 A Jack Griffin was my supervisor.
- 8 Q So Mr. Hood was not your supervisor?
- 9 A Can you clarify what you mean by
- 10 supervisor? As far as reporting lines I believe at
- 11 the time I reported in to Jack, but then Jack was
- 12 also demoted at some point in time. I don't recall
- 12 diso demoted at some point in time. I don't recan
- 13 exactly when that was.
- 14 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 47 is marked for
- identification.)
- 16 BY MS. FEROT:
- 17 Q Okay. I'm going to hand you what we will
- 18 mark as Exhibit 47. It's communications between Mr.
- 19 Kozko and you, Mr. Griffin, dated February 22, 2023.
- 20 And it says, I don't understand the surprise when
- 21 since November I've communicated to you that the
- 22 financial situation was -- on multiple occasion
- 23 since then with less key people. Surprise is clear,
- 24 you never told me that we will now not even have a
- 25 chance to make September with unclarity when Indy

1 can even launch.

When was the launch supposed to

3 occur?

4 A That committed to launching in May of 20

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- 5 -- there that's -- I believe it was May 2023. There
- 6 was lots of talk and negotiation I think around the
- 7 time whether it should be earlier or, either the
- 8 month before the Indy 500, but I'd have to confirm
- 9 the exact date. Yeah, I believe that it, it changed 10 a couple of times, I believe.
- 11 Q And this deadline could not be met,
- 12 correct?
- 13 A Well, I said -- I certainly raised concern
- 14 with the deadline when I first saw it, and multiple
- 15 times along the way, that it was difficult to do,
- 16 and the games typically take longer. And the
- 17 response was, as with all of their games, because
- 18 this was a common theme, that they had overcommitted
- 19 themselves by some, I guess promises that Steven
- 20 Hood had made to Dimitri, that the company was
- 21 capable of executing on these, that there were
- 22 these, that this deadline with, I think the one
- 23 deadline with IndyCar, a deadline with NASCAR, and
- 24 so on, were almost impossible to meet, or very
- 25 difficult to meet, to which Dimitri wouldn't accept
- 1 that as an answer, and so the conversations went
- 2 back and forth, was if I do this can we potentially 3 make that deadline, and I would say, well, yes, if
- 4 we do that yes, if not then no.
- 5 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 48 is marked for
- 6 identification.)
- 7 BY MS. FEROT:
- 8 Q Okay. I'm going to hand you what I will
- 9 mark as Exhibit Number 48.
- 10 A Mm-hmm.
- 1 Q It's an e-mail from Ms. Dara Acker to you,
- 12 Mr. Griffin, copy Steven Hood, Dawn Saunders, and
- 13 that's it.
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q Called -- captioned Notice of Redundancy.
- 16 Do you remember this document?
- 17 A I do, yes.
- 18 Q And here the company is telling you the
- 19 company has unfortunately concluded your role is
- 20 redundant effective as of Friday number, November 3,
- 21 2023. Is this the day you were terminated?
- 22 A I was made redundant on that day, yes.
- 23 Q Okay, so that -- November 3rd was your
- 24 last day.
- A As -- as an employee of Motorsport Games,

45 (Pages 174 - 177)

- 1 not, not as director of the company. So I -- I
- 2 still am the director of the Australian entity.
- Q So the word company means which company?
- A Well, in this case they referred to
- 5 Motorsport Games, Inc. as the company.
- Q Okay.
- A Has notified that the company was
- 8 reviewing, yeah, Motorsport Games, Inc. it's 9 referring to.
- 10 Q So it -- is it your position that you're
- 11 still employed by Motorsport Australia?
- A My position is I'm currently director of,
- 13 of Motorsport Games Australia Proprietary Limited.
- Q So you work for them still to this date?
- 15 A All I can say is I'm the director of the
- 16 company, so there are certain requirements that I,
- 17 I'm storing equipment for the company, I have, there
- 18 is an IP of the company which I have, as I'm
- 19 required to do by that, that agreement. For
- 20 whatever reason they won't shut the, the company
- 21 down.
- 22 Q But you're no longer an employee of
- 23 Motorsport Games Australia, right?
- A No, I was never an employee. I'm -- I'm
- 25 the director of the company.

- 1 Q So what were those expenses?
 - 2 A Like storage of equipment, and the, those

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- 3 transport costs of the moving equipment from one
- 4 location to the storage facility --
- Q Which location? 5
- 6 A There was an office that we used to, used
- 7 to have, and we were trying to secure that, but
- 8 ultimately Steven had other plans for Australia, and
- 9 so that lease was never executed.
- Q So right now is there any activity with
- 11 Motorsport Australia?
- 12 A Not that I'm aware of, but I understand
- 13 that, again it speaks to the incompetence that I've
- 14 experienced here. I believe that when they made
- 15 everyone redundant in Australia that they also made
- 16 one of their, one of the employees is working on,
- 17 was at the time working on -- title, which is for
- 18 the U.K. -- title now, they actually mistakenly made
- 19 someone redundant and removed them from the company,
- 20 then tried to reinstate them after.
- Q Okay. So if you look at Page 2 of the
- 22 exhibit, here the letters states that it refers to
- 23 your employment with Motorsport Games Australia,
- 24 right? So that's a termination of your employment
- 25 with Motorsport, with Motorsport Australia,

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- Q So when you say director it's just with
- 2 respect to the entity, but not a paid employee 3 position with Motorsport Australia.
- A So there is provisions in the company's
- 5 constitution that I'm to be paid director's fees for
- 6 it. I haven't been paid director's fees. I've had
- 7 -- I've reimbursed myself for certain expenses for
- 8 which I've incurred in relation to my role as the
- 9 director, and under the terms of the, the, the 10 constitution.
- Q Were those expenses approved?
- A They're approved by myself as director,
- 13 again under the terms of the, of the constitution of
- 14 the company.
- 15 Q But not by anyone else.
- A It's not required to be. It's -- I have
- 17 -- as a director I can reimburse myself as long as
- 18 they're related to the company, which I've already
- 19 disclosed to Stanley, and Neil Conroy, I think, he's
- 20 the, one of the finance people there. They -- I
- 21 think duration the mediation was when they said that
- 22 I'd stolen money from the company, and referred to
- 23 that amount, but it wasn't theft, it was purely
- 24 reimbursement of expenses, which I continue to incur
- 25 right now, but they won't shut down the company.

1 effective November 3, 2023.

- A Mm-hmm. Yes, that's correct. And you can
- 3 see that they said that it would need to be shut
- 4 down as it's no longer financially viable. Well,
- 5 here we are more than a year after that fact and the
- 6 company is still, still exists.
- 7 Q But it's a shell, because there's no 8 activity.
- A Well, it's still incurring costs. It's
- 10 still incurring storage costs by myself, the
- 11 director. It's still incurring costs for storage of
- 12 some of the, the IP as well. The company will still
- 13 need to file like no returns effectively, but there
- 14 are still assets that need to be liquidated, and so
- 15 on, because it still has some of these, these
- 16 computers.
- Q So if Motorsport Australia, or Motorsport
- 18 US asked you to help them shutting it down, remove
- 19 yourself from their bank accounts, you would assist
- 20 them with that?
- A If, and only if there were certain 21
- 22 conditions to that to protect my own, I guess credit
- 23 rating and, and so on, because I have no faith in
- 24 them that -- again, for, for a company who
- 25 terminates, or makes redundant one of its staff

46 (Pages 178 - 181)

Page 182 1 accidentally, and then tries to rehire them, and 2 also isn't aware of what my responsibilities as a 3 director are, and I'm personally responsible for 4 these, and didn't communicate that they tried to 5 rehire someone (unintelligible) to do so, I have no 6 faith that they'll continue operating this properly, 7 and shut it down correctly, and I wouldn't be left 8 with a, with a director's penalty notice, or, or 9 some -- penalty by the Australian government. So I'm happy to work with them, I'd 11 like to, to have this entity shut down, but they, 12 but they won't do so at the moment. And so if they 13 were to cease activity, and I can sign that, then 14 absolutely, but I'm not going to risk my own credit 15 score, or credit rating, and a lifetime director's 16 penalty notices for, for their incompetence. 17 (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 49 is marked for 18 identification.) 19 BY MS. FEROT: Q Okay. I'm going to hand you what we will 21 mark as Exhibit 49. 22 MR. AYALA: We're almost there. 23 THE WITNESS: When do we get to triple 24 digits? 25 BY MS. FEROT: Page 183

Page 184 1 Q Roughly. A Yeah, so that -- that \$42,000.00 on seven 3 monthly lease payments, yes it looks to be the case. Q And behind this Excel spreadsheet you have 5 all the expenses submitted. Were they submitted by 6 you, the --7 A Which ones? 8 Q All of them. Typically you, you entered 9 that in the, in the system. Is it how it works? A Yeah, if it says it's under me. I don't 11 recall whether or not finance can make modifications 12 to it. I believe they're all submitted by me. Q Okay. Why looking at the Excel 14 spreadsheet do you still, do you see anything that 15 you think was not reimbursed? Do you have the 16 description under memo or comments? 17 A Where's the Excel spreadsheet? 18 Q Here. So that would be your second page. 19 Yeah, right there. A I'd have to go through each one, but again 21 I can assume that that was the case. (Thereupon, Defendant Exhibit 50 is marked for 23 identification.)

1 Q This is a composite exhibit. 2 Α Wow. 3 Q I'll represent to you that this is your 4 expense report from NetSuite. A Mm-hmm. Q And if you look on page, on the first page 7 it says summary, which is the Excel spreadsheet. 9 Q So here you have the list of expenses 10 you've submitted in NetSuite. 12 Q And except for the first line they were 13 approved and paid in full. 14 A Yes. 15 Q Does those expense seem accurate to you,

Page 185 1 mark as Exhibit 50. It's a composite exhibit that 2 contains your initial disclosures. 3 Α Yes. 4 And the last page is the, it's a 5 spreadsheet given to us by your counsel regarding 6 your --7 A Yes. Q -- alleged damages. And that's printed 9 very small, but I wanted to go over this spreadsheet 10 with you. So are you looking at the last page? 11 Yes. 12 A Mm-hmm. 13 Q Okay, so it starts with the months of 14 April on the --15 A Yes. 16 Q What year is that? A That would be April 2022. 17

Q Okay. I'm going to hand you what we will

20 to --21 A I can only assume that they were.

Q Is it your recollection that those

Q Okay. So if we remove the first line that

23 was rejected, so that's \$100,000.00 approximately of

19 expenses were paid? Roughly again, I'm not asking

A Can you confirm what you mean by accurate?

24 expenses paid; is that correct?

A I'd have to do the, the math, but --

22 August '23. A Yes.

Q And then that would be January '23 until

Q Okay. So I assume May, June, and all the

23

24 Q So --

A Yes.

24 BY MS. FEROT:

25

MR. AYALA: Is this -- this is the same,

19 following months are 2022 until December?

47 (Pages 182 - 185)

18

20

21

16 roughly?

17

18

- 1 right? It's the same twice, isn't it?
- 2 MS. FEROT: It's just the first one was
- 3 very small, barely readable, but --
- 4 MR. AYALA: Okay, but is -- is -- there's
- 5 not two sheets, it's just one, right?
- 6 MS. FEROT: Yes.
- 7 MR. AYALA: Yeah, okay.
- 8 MS. FEROT: This is the, the one you --
- 9 MR. AYALA: Yeah.
- 10 MS. FEROT: -- e-mailed to me.
- 11 BY MS. FEROT:
- 12 Q Okay. And those are your -- these Excel
- 13 spreadsheet is a calculation of your damages; is
- 14 that correct?
- 15 A It was a -- when I was to raise this with
- 16 Dimitri to show what the, the delta was between
- 17 them. I showed him this three scenarios. One which
- 18 was the, what I would have earned, and continued to
- 10 was the, what I would have earlied, and continue
- 19 earn after tax in Australia had I stayed in
- 20 Australia, which is what I used as the baseline.
- 21 The second is what I should have, what my expenses
- 22 should have been if I was to get the, the visa, or
- 23 if Motorsport Games were to file the petition. And
- 24 then lastly were approximate actuals of the expenses
- 25 that I did incur, and then deltas of, of those.
- Page 187
- Q Okay. So generally your position is that
- 2 Motorsport US is liable for these damages from April
- 3 2022 to August '23; is that right?
- A My position is that -- with the, the, the
- 5 spreadsheet that I put together, it's of what I
- 6 should have earned and what I didn't earn. As far
- 7 as liability I'd have to talk to my attorney there,
- 8 but this was the losses that I incurred from relying
- 9 on Dimitri's promise to, to relocate.
- 10 Q So those are your, what you call losses
- 11 that, that we would call damages.
- 12 A Well, I'd have to, to consult with my
- 13 counsel.
- 14 Q All right. And you think you're entitled
- 15 to the amounts, the amount listed, because
- 16 Motorsport made a promise that you relied on.
- 17 A Motorsport and -- Dimitri and Motorsport
- 18 made a promise that I relied on ultimately to myself
- 19 and my wife's detriment, and these are highlighting
- 20 what those, what the costs that we'd incurred were.
- 21 This is what we, we should have incurred.
- 22 Q And when earlier you stated that Mr. Kozko
- 23 agreed in October 2022 to cover those losses, those
- 24 would be the losses.
- 25 A There were several -- or there was a, a

- 1 modification there. The legal wedding, the
 - 2 furniture, and the, the car sale, we had said that
 - 3 these were still losses that we had incurred, but
 - 4 losses that we were, would accept, because
 - 5 ultimately we would recoup much more than that by,

Page 188

- 6 by the lower tax rate, and by moving to, to Miami.
- 7 Q Okay. So but for those three items,
- 8 meaning the legal wedding, the furniture, and the
- 9 car sale, Mr. Kozko had agreed to cover those losses
- 10 over this period of time from April '22 to August
- 11 '23; is that right?
- 12 A Well, at the time when I showed it to him
- 13 I believe it was up until October, and then, and he,
- 14 he (unintelligible) these out, I think, from what
- 15 they were, and he -- but at the time it was, that I
- 16 showed him the spreadsheet, was as of October 2022.
- 7 Q Okay. Okay. But did you agree to cover
- 18 the costs after October?
- 19 A We agreed that he would cover the, the
- 20 losses, and reimburse me for those, or compensate me
- 21 for those, those losses.
- 22 Q But which losses, the one before October,
- 23 the one after, or both?
- 24 A To compensate the losses that I'd, that I
- 25 show him on the spreadsheet at the time, up until,
 - Page 189

1 the losses as, as of that date.

- O So the losses before October?
- 3 A Yeah, as I said to him, I said here, these
- 4 are the losses that I've, that I've incurred, and I
- 5 can't continue to, to lose these, or to, to incur
- 6 these losses, and so he said, well, I will cover, I
- 7 will compensate you for those losses when we had
- 8 the, the agreement that he would perform.
- o the, the agreement that he would perform
- 9 Q So I'm a little confused about the losses
- 10 ---
- 11 A Mm-hmm.
- 12 Q -- after October. What was the -- what
- 13 was -- was there a promise regarding losses after
- 14 October?
- 15 A The -- the promise that he'd made was that
- 16 he would use Cammisa Markel, the, the law firm to
- 17 get the -- that he would promise to, to cover the,
- 18 the losses I've incurred, and to use Camissa Markel.
- 19 Q But that promise -- that promise about the
- 20 sponsorship was made in September 2021, right? It's
- 21 not the promise that was made in October 2022.
- A No, I'm referring to, to, to -- the first promise was the relocation.
- 24 Q Mm-hmm.
- 25 A And then this second -- promise was to

48 (Pages 186 - 189)

- 1 compensate me for those, for those losses.
- 2 Q Okay. In October 2022, the second 3 promise.
- 4 A Where they -- the conversation when I
- 5 showed him this, this spreadsheet, was I think
- 6 before like October, middle of October 2022.
- 7 Q So as -- you didn't get your answer. Did
- 8 you -- did he -- did Mr. Kozko in mid- October 2022
- 9 promise to cover your losses after October?
- 10 A He merely agreed to, to cover the losses 11 that I'd incurred.
- 12 Q Okay. All right, so -- so how did you
- 13 calculate the delta?
- 14 A So the -- the first line, sorry, the
- 15 first, so under Australia, the, the green bar down
- 16 and through the, the orange bar, was what the salary
- 17 I was receiving after tax at the time, my accrued
- 18 bonus that I was receiving at the time, or prior to
- 19 the relocation, and then how much I was paying for
- 20 health insurance, rent, and my phone, in Australian
- 21 dollars, and then what the delta was between the
- 22 income, the after tax income, and then the rent and
- 23 health insurance, and the phone expenses.
- 24 That was for that -- I did exactly
- 25 the same thing of what we expected when we came to,

- 1 to him until June of, of that year.
 - 2 Q Did you remind them?
 - 3 A I did. I reminded them. I reminded a
 - 4 company called the Dash Group (ph) as well --
 - 5 executive coaching and leadership. I reminded Dara

Page 192

Page 193

- 6 routinely. It was a common theme with Dara as well
- 7 for most, given, for many times it was routinely
- 8 having to chase her up --
- 9 Q But never in writing.
 - A Generally we were in the office together,
- 11 she would come down, and we'd discuss there, or we'd
- 12 have Teams conversations, so most of it was, was
- 13 verbal.

10

- 14 Q So even though it's critical for you and
- 15 your wife to get the visa as soon as possible never
- 16 you reminded her in an e-mail, or any sort of
- 17 writing.
- 18 A There was no need, I spoke to her in
- 19 conversation. At the time Amanda LeCheminant was
- 20 actually the, who I had the most contact with,
- 21 because she was the one who was ultimately
- 22 responsible to, to keep driving this.
- 23 Q Okay. So --
- 24 A Then she was fired obviously, so.
 - Q Under the Australia computation --

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25

- 1 to Florida as well, and had Motorsport Games filed
- 2 the petition what we should have received. And then
- 3 underneath that in blue is approximate actuals.
- 4 Some of these are extrapolated, so there might be a
- 5 variation in them, but generally that was the --
- 6 trend.
- 7 Q So the Florida part is what would have
- 8 been if you had had the visa from day one, which
- 9 would be April 2022.
- 10 A No. That would have been from May. In --
- 11 no, because the -- you can see from Florida there
- 12 the, the \$11,700.00 is the same as what I'd been
- 13 earning, or what I was paid in the month as well.
- 14 Q So this calculation assumes you would have
- 15 gotten, you should have gotten your visa in May
- 16 2022.
- 17 A Approximately, yes.
- 18 Q Okay.
- 19 A And so I e-mailed -- I was additional
- 20 advised my Mark Katsman that the process would take
- 21 approximately two to three, or you could say the
- 22 decision, approximately two to three weeks from
- 23 that, and the, and I believe I e-mailed him around
- 24 the 21st or so (unintelligible) around the 21st of
- 25 April, and then I believe Dara and Amanda didn't get

1 A Yes.

- 2 Q -- this is a fiction where you would have
- 3 stayed in Australia instead of moving to Miami; is
- 4 that right?
- 5 A Fiction's an interesting word. I'd prefer
- 6 to describe that if things were to continue as they
- 7 were that that's what I would have received.
- 8 Q Okay. And what's the increase in
- 9 compensation on every month --
- 10 A In Australia?
- 11 O Mm-hmm.
- 12 A The exchange rate fluctuates, there's a
- 13 significant drop from 67 to 62.
- 14 Q So it assumes you would have kept your
- 15 initial compensation from April 2022.
- 16 A That's correct.
- 17 Q Okay. And in Florida you got some
- 18 amendment to your appointment contract, so you had a
- 19 compensation that it's, that changed in May, and
- 20 that is reflected by your employment agreement with
- 21 Motorsport Australia.
- 22 A The change, as I said, was previously,
- 23 Motorsport Games when I needed to provide proof of
- 24 income, and when the corporate lease was denied
- 25 because they were in imminent risk of business

49 (Pages 190 - 193)

- 1 failure according to Dun & Bradstreet. They had,
- 2 the company weren't, or felt that Motorsport Games
- 3 could potentially get into trouble by providing me
- 4 with a, an offer letter, and so -- was via this
- 5 amendment to contract to support the application.
- Q Okay. Okay, so in this Florida part
- 7 you're just imputing numbers that reflect your
- 8 compensation, including your raise due to your
- 9 relocation; is that right?
- A Sorry, could you repeat that please?
- Q Yes. Sure. So under the Florida part
- 12 your, your compensation changes because you, you
- 13 agreed to some amendments to your employment
- 14 contract.
- 15 A No, the Florida part changes because the,
- 16 it was based on receiving, or Motorsport Games
- 17 filing the petition and receiving the, receiving
- 18 the, the income that Dimitri and I had, had
- 19 previously agreed on as part of the relocation
- 20 agreement.
- Q Okay. So when you say the relocation
- 22 agreement you're referring to your agreement from
- 23 what date?
- A The one we made in September 2021, as far
- 25 as the base salary. And obviously, as I mentioned

- Page 196 1 think there were several modifications, so I know
 - 2 Dimitri had access, I don't know if this is the one
 - 3 that he also had access to and modified as well.
 - Q This is the one that was given to us by
 - 5 your counsel.
 - A Yes, but that document, I'd downloaded a
 - 7 copy of it, and it was a live document, and so
 - 8 Dimitri had access to it. I think several people
 - 9 had access to it. I believe.
 - 10 Q When did you download it, downloaded it?
 - 11 A That's a good question. I don't recall.
 - 12 I'd have to, to check file stamp. I'm not sure.
 - Q Do you still have access to it?
 - A Not the online version of it, but I do
 - 15 have an Excel file, I believe somewhere.
 - Q Okay. But this document has been
 - 17 submitted as your initial disclosures --
 - A Yes, I'd -- as I said I'd --18
 - 19 Q -- and that states your damages, so this
 - 20 is being approved by your as your requested damages.
 - A I said I, I've prepared the initial
 - 22 version of it, and I'm saying there may have been
 - 23 other contributors, in the form of I think Dimitri
 - 24 made some modifications to it, but generally
 - 25 speaking, yes, I prepared this.

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13

- 1 earlier, due to the company's financial position
- 2 they mentioned, they asked if I'd, or Dimitri asked
- 3 if I'd accept a, a lower amount of the bonus in two
- 4 payments, amounting to \$48,000.00 USD. And that's
- 5 what that line reflects.
- Q Okay. And then the -- and then there is
- 7 the line, a row that says actual. What's the
- 8 difference between Florida, the Florida part and the
- 9 actual?
- A So the actual is what generally
- 11 transpired. So these were the, some actual, I think
- 12 some were extrapolated amounts of costs that we'd
- 13 incurred, and income that I'd received while being
- 14 over here, and so you will notice that Francesca's
- 15 salary is zeroed out over all of it, but had she
- 16 been able to, to work over here, then she could have
- 17 begun work in September 2022.
- Q So that's why under the Florida scenario
- 19 you input \$7,000.00 to \$121,000.00 for Francesca
- 20 starting September 2022.
- 21 A That's correct.
- 22 Q Did you prepare this spreadsheet?
- 23 A I did.
- 24 Q Okay. So the Florida part --
- 25 A Or wait, so I'll say that this one here, I

Page 197 Q Okay. So -- so Australia is if you had

- 2 stayed in Australia. Florida is if you had had your
- 3 visa while in Florida. And actually is what
- 4 actually happened.
- A That's correct. Because the Florida one
- 6 is, Mark Katsman had stated that typically you
- 7 receive the, the visa in two to three weeks, having,
- 8 following the company filing it, and so it was based
- 9 on if we'd moved to that, that April date and begun,
- 10 begun the, the petition then.
 - Q Okay, so how do you calculate the delta?
- 12 A So the delta, I was looking at what the
- 13 net result was, so which is to say, if we take a, a
- 14 simple example, if we look at Australia under April
- 15 there was a net income of \$22,588.00 AUD after tax,
- 16 and then less the expenses I'm left with a surplus
- 17 of \$19,000.00.
- 18 Q Okay.
- 19 A If you follow the next month there's a
- 20 surplus of \$20,000.00 which -- again there's the
- 21 surplus, and then the next, the row below, beneath
- 22 that, is the cumulative amounts of what that delta
- 23 adds up to, of the income less expenses.
- Q Okay. Okay, so you've explained the last 24 25 lines of each part, but you haven't explained how

50 (Pages 194 - 197)

- 1 you calculate the delta. So you, you subtract one
- 2 with the other?
- A So what I did there is -- yes, you can see
- 4 the net amount, so where it says the, where's the,
- 5 the orange bar, which is the delta after tax, you
- 6 can see the, the net, which is a net loss of
- 7 \$27,364.00 AUD, approximately, and then the
- 8 cumulative I would say for that month is, is the
- 9 same, and then it does a comparison to Australia and 10 Florida.
- 11 Q So you subtract the net result from under
- 12 Australia from the next result of Australia, the net
- 13 result from Florida, and that's your delta.
- A That's fair. It's showing the two of them
- 15 and, yes, saying that this is, this is the
- 16 cumulative losses of -- Florida, this is the
- 17 cumulative losses that I've, of the actuals.
- Q So what do you do for the actual? 18
- A The actual is there to say -- so this was,
- 20 yeah, these are the, the losses here, so if you look
- 21 at the Australia line, this is the loss of the
- 22 actual, so what I incurred in Australia, those are
- 23 what I paid actually versus in Australia, what the
- 24 delta was between that, so had I, because we're in
- 25 Florida with the actual expenses if you look at in
 - Page 199

1

- 1 July there's a net loss of \$77,000.00, so by coming
- 2 over here and not having the petition filed I've
- 3 lost \$77,000.00 AUD versus if I'd stayed in Florida.
- 4 And then in Florida, under the Florida outcome, the
- 5 Florida scenario, I've lost \$67,000.00
- 6 approximately.
- Q All right so let's take just a months. If
- 8 you want to take July, I'm not sure I understand
- 9 what -- tell me exactly where is the number that you
- 10 subtracted to which number, so --
- A Yeah, so if you look at -- under Florida
- 12 or Australia?
- 13 Q No, just tell me how you calculate the
- 14 delta. You tell me which one.
- A Okay. So you can see the cumulative
- 16 amount in July is \$80,000.00 under Australia.
- 17 Q Okay.
- 18 A You can then see that the, the amount
- 19 under, where is it, the net amount in the actuals is
- 20 \$10,000.00. And so if you subtract \$20,000.00 from
- 21 \$10,000.00 you're left with a, a loss of \$10,423.00.
- Q So \$10,221.00 is the number you used? 22
- 23 A That's correct.
- Q So the delta would be around \$70,000.00? 24
- 25 A So you can see -- that's just a cumulative

- 1 amount from the loss, but you can see that in
- 2 Australia in July there's a, there's a relative net
- 3 \$10,000.00 loss, because that's the difference
- 4 between if I'd stayed in Australia I would have had

Page 200

Page 201

- 5 a net income of \$20,000.00, if we'd have had the
- 6 visa, and Motorsport Games filed the petition, I
- 7 would have had the, a net of \$19,000.00, but in
- 8 actual fact, I had only netted \$10,000.00 in the
- 9 actuals, and so that was a relative, Australia was a
- 10 net loss of \$10,000.00, relative to the Florida it
- 11 was a net loss of \$8,700.00.
- 12 Q Okay, so if you had stayed in Australia
- 13 in, by July 2022 you would have earned a net of
- 14 \$80,870.00.
- A That's correct. 15
- 16 Q But by staying, by coming to Miami you
- 17 only had \$10,221.00.
- A By coming to Miami, the cumulative amount 18
- 19 in Australia by \$80,000.00, by coming to Miami I was
- 20 actually negative, negative \$77,000.00, because
- 21 you're comparing the cumulative amounts.
- 22 MR. AYALA: No, it, it wouldn't be three,
- 23 three, \$3,244.00?
- 24 THE WITNESS: No, that's, I think -- if
- 25 you have a highlighter I can highlight it. So

- if you do the comparison here, so you look at
- 2 the net amount here of \$20,000.00, and you're
- 3 looking at the cumulative amount of \$80,000.00,
- 4 versus in Florida the net amount was
- 5 \$10,000,00, and the cumulative amount was
- 6 \$3,000.00, and if you compare those two then in
- 7 Australia I should have been up, or I would
- 8 have been up \$80,000.00, but by coming to
- 9 Florida I was only up \$3,200.00, which leaves a 10 net loss of \$77,000.00.
- 11 MR. AYALA: I see.
- 12 THE WITNESS: And then under the Florida
- 13 situate, or the Florida scenario, there was a,
- 14 a net loss of \$67,000.00 AUD after tax.
- 15 BY MS. FEROT:
 - Q Is everything in Australian dollars?
- A Everything is in Australian dollars, with 17
- 18 the exception of the, I believe the total at the
- 19 bottom right figure, it's the U.S. dollar amount.
- 20 Q Okay.
 - A There's a conversion.
- Q So basically you're comparing your living
- 23 costs in Australia with what it, what it was in
- 24 Florida.

16

21

A It was merely to illustrate that had we,

51 (Pages 198 - 201)

- 1 if we stayed in Australia, and let's use July as a
- 2 example to keep it simple, I would have been up
- 3 \$80,000.00 in relative income and living costs. In
- 4 Florida by that time we should have been up
- 5 \$71,000.00. But in actual fact I was down by
- 6 \$77,000.00, so I was only up by \$3,000.00, which the
- 7 delta is \$77,000.00 versus the Australian scenario,
- 8 and \$67,000.00 down relative to the Florida
- 9 scenario.
- 10 You can certainly exclude the, if you
- 11 excluded the legal wedding, furniture and car sales
- 12 of, was that \$35,000.00, there's still a \$35,000.00
- 13 or, or \$40,000.00 deficit.
- 14 Q Are you claiming as damages your legal
- 15 wedding, furniture and car sale, or not?
- 16 A No. No, they, they were costs that we had
- 17 reasonably expected to, to incur. I've only
- 18 highlighted that that was, again, part of the
- 19 commitment we made in, in coming here, was that we'd 19
- 20 incurred these costs, which ultimately because we
- 21 believed we would recoup them from all the tax
- 22 breaks and, and the higher income. That didn't
- 23 happen with the, the high, with the low net income,
- 24 and without the Motorsport Games filing the
- 25 petition, and so this was the, the result.

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- 1 Q So those are living expenses, right, rent 2 and --
- A It's doing a, an approximate reasonably
- 4 lifelike comparison, as to say here is what we were
- 5 in Australia, and what we would have netted each
- 6 month, and then cumulatively in Australia. Here is
- 7 what we should have netted in Florida, and here the,
- 8 the actuals. And looking purely at income, and then
- 9 rent, health insurance and phone costs.
- 10 Q So usually living costs are covered by an
- 11 employee's compensation, right?
- 12 A Unless there's other agreements in place.
- 13 Q Okay. And so you're claiming that
- 14 Motorsport US should cover these costs, even though
- 15 they raised your compensation for your relocation;
- 16 is that right?
- 17 A What I'm claiming is that Motorsport Games
- 18 failed to file the, the petition, and as a result
- 19 these were the, the losses that I incurred, and my
- 20 wife incurred to, to our detriment by relying on
- 21 Motorsport Games and Dimitri's unfulfilled promise.
- 22 Q And those costs include costs related to
- 23 Francesca, and not to you?
- 24 A There is, as I've put here there is a
- 25 single line item for the, her salary, which was she

1 was precluded from being able to work and, and

- 2 accept an offer from her previous employer, because
- 3 we did not have the, the sponsorship that Dimitri
- 4 and Motorsport Games promised.
- Q So she never worked during the time you
- 6 were --
- 7 A No.
- 8 Q -- in Miami?
- 9 A No, she, she couldn't.
- 10 Q Okay.
- 11 A She -- I'll add to that, she came the week
- 12 we arrived back in, in Australia, in August 2023,
- 13 and she commenced work with that same company in
- 14 Australia.
- MS. FEROT: Can we take a quick break just
- 16 to see --

20

4

- 17 VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 4:31 p.m. We
- are off the record.
- 19 (Thereupon, the deposition is off the record, and
 - the proceeding continues as follows:)
- VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 4:38 p.m. You
- are on the record.
- 23 BY MS. FEROT:
- 24 Q Thank you. So we discussed two promises
- 25 that were meant by Dimitri Kozko. One was in

Page 205

Page 204

- 1 September 2021, and the other was mid-October 2022.
- 2 Did anyone else at Motorsport US made a promise?
- 3 A Could you be more specific?
 - Q Anyone then.
- 5 A People make promises all the time, so.
- 6 Q A promise on behalf of Motorsport US.
- 7 MR. AYALA: I promise I buy you lunch.
- 8 THE WITNESS: So -- well, yeah -- promises
- 9 all the time.
- 10 BY MS. FEROT:
- 11 O Of course, but related to this case.
- 12 A I don't believe so.
- 13 Q Okay. So the promise made on September
- 14 2021 was oral.
- 15 A That's correct.
- 16 Q And you don't have a writing from Mr.
- 17 Kozko regarding this promise.
- 18 A I have actions that he and the company
- 19 took, and references to the relocation, and various
- 20 other communications that back up the, the agreement
- 21 that we, that we'd made.
- 22 Q Okay, but the promise itself was not in
- 23 writing.
- 24 A That was a verbal agreement between the

25 two of us.

D 404	2 200
Page 206	Page 208 1 A It was a no, it was a, a genuine offer,
1 Q Okay. And the promise to relocate to the 2 Miami office was a permanent relocation, right?	2 but it wasn't, I wouldn't move, I'm not going to be
3 A It was, yeah, to relocate to the, and	3 shown a car and move my life because someone says
	4 they'll buy you a car.
4 provide sponsorship to relocate to, to Miami.	
5 Q But that was permanent.	
6 A Could you further 7 Q That he didn't say you will go for a year.	<i>'</i>
7 Q That he didn't say you will go for a year. 8 A No. No, we	1
	8 A Because I'd never I'd never agree to 9 it.
9 Q They said you're going to be staying 10 there	10 MS. FEROT: Okay. I think I have no more
11 A That's correct. It was indefinite, it was	11 questions.
12 could you please	12 MR. AYALA: (Unintelligible).
13 Q Okay.	13 MS. FEROT: Do you have any questions?
14 A could you please relocate to the Miami	14 MR. AYALA: No, I don't.
15 office.	15 MS. FEROT: No questions, then we're done.
16 Q Okay. And he also promised medical care,	16 THE COURT REPORTER: Read or waive?
17 which was your understanding would be as long as you	17 MS. FEROT: That would
18 would be in Miami.	18 MR. AYALA: Read or waive, what a great
19 A It was it was part of the, the	19 question. You understood everything? Yeah?
20 relocation, the agreement that we made is, again, we	THE COURT REPORTER: It's not up to me.
21 had numerous conversations in the, from when he	21 MR. AYALA: No, I know. I know, but
22 first said that if I came to Miami he'd buy me a	there's a, an accent situation here.
23 car, and we talked about health insurance, and he	23 THE COURT REPORTER: (Unintelligible).
24 asked what it was like in Australia, and said this	MR. AYALA: Yeah, we we can
25 is what it was like in the U.S., and so it was an	waive. We can waive. I I recommend you to
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
Page 207	Paga 200
Page 207	Page 209
1 important part of, important part of coming over	1 waive reading that whole thing. I mean you,
1 important part of, important part of coming over 2 here, is that we had health insurance.	waive reading that whole thing. I mean you,you got the right to review the whole thing and
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53 (Pages 206 - 209)

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16 MR. AYALA: I will highly likely need one, 16	
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19 VIDEOGRAPHER: We are off the record at 19	
20 4:46 p.m., and this concludes today's testimony 20 CHARIIY KIVE	
21 given by Zachary Griffin. 21	
22 (Thereupon, the deposition concludes.) 22	
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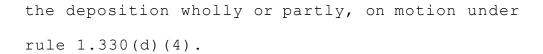
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(e) Witness Review. If the testimony is transcribed, the transcript shall be furnished to the witness for examination and shall be read to or by the witness unless the examination and reading are waived by the witness and by the parties. Any changes in form or substance that the witness wants to make shall be listed in writing by the officer with a statement of the reasons given by the witness for making the changes. The changes shall be attached to the transcript. It shall then be signed by the witness unless the parties waived the signing or the witness is ill, cannot be found, or refuses to sign. If the transcript is not signed by the witness within a reasonable time after it is furnished to the witness, the officer shall sign the transcript and state on the transcript the waiver, illness, absence of the witness, or refusal to sign with any reasons given therefor. The deposition may then be used as fully as though signed unless the court holds that the reasons given for the refusal to sign require rejection of



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2019. PLEASE REFER TO THE APPLICABLE STATE RULES

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